



CALL
for Expression of Interest for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation
in the Area of 'Inter-generational Cooperation in Local Communities'

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Foundation for Civil Society Development, through its Euro-Mediterranean activities, encourages **cooperation between civil society organizations, research institutions and other stakeholders** from different countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region. The aim is to develop partnerships that contribute to sustainable development, social cohesion and strengthening the democratic participation of citizens.

Special emphasis is placed on the **exchange of knowledge, the development of innovative approaches and the connection of organizations** working on common societal challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean area.

Since 2025, the National Foundation has started implementing a program called iM:PACT – Innovations for the Mediterranean, aimed at developing cross-sectoral and cross-border partnerships in the region. The Program brings together foundations and other civil society organizations and research institutions to develop innovative solutions to challenges such as migration and social cohesion, environmental protection and climate resilience, and inclusive socio-economic development. This Program is an initiative to connect and collaborate with public institutions and foundations, as well as other organizations devoted to the Mediterranean in 9 EU Member States located on the Mediterranean (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain).

The Mediterranean area is today a region where global challenges intersect with particular intensity: climate change, environmental degradation, migratory pressures, social and economic inequalities, demographic challenges and democratic fragility. These interconnected challenges make the Mediterranean a key space for advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in practice. However, while the SDGs offer a common global framework, their impact depends on meaningful regional and local implementation.

The **iM:PACT Program** therefore aims to create new and concrete activities for sustainable development, based on the idea of a just and inclusive society through the implementation of cross-border joint innovations in areas such as: children and youth, longevity and active ageing, green transition, renewable energy sources, sustainable tourism, cultural diversity, climate change, food security, etc. This approach is based on the principles of the Zadar Declaration, which highlights the importance of human rights, inclusiveness and cross-sectoral cooperation in addressing the common challenges of the region.

In this context, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in early 2026 between the Anna Lindh Foundation - ALF and the National Foundation for the Development of Civil Society on the iM:PACT Innovations for the Mediterranean program in the field of **inter-generational cooperation aimed at achieving inclusive societies in the Euro-Mediterranean area**.

Through Euro-Mediterranean initiatives, the National Foundation contributes to **strengthening international cooperation, developing new partnerships and creating sustainable solutions to the common challenges of the region**, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and cooperation between Euro-Mediterranean societies.

II. CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Aim of the Call

The aim of this Call for expression of interest is to provide support and empower the organizations involved, which will, through joint cooperation and international partnership, as creators of positive change in their local communities, develop initiatives and activities as models that can contribute to the achievement of the goals of inter-generational cooperation and social inclusion.

With this Call, the National Foundation, together with the ALF, wishes to establish cooperation with organizations that offer effective, concrete and innovative activities for sustainable development in the Mediterranean in the field of inter-generational cooperation in local communities, and at the same time, by piloting their cooperation models, provide the possibility of testing the feasibility and scalability of such models for other interested local communities, either in the Republic of Croatia or in other countries in the Mediterranean.

Who can apply

Only organizations that are **members of the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean** (the Croatian ALF Network) according to the updated official [list](#).

Who cannot apply

The following types of organizations cannot apply to this Call:

- organizations that are not members of the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean;
- organizations that are not registered and active in the Republic of Croatia, in accordance with the applicable regulations;
- organizations that are in bankruptcy, liquidation or have a blocked account;
- organizations founded by political parties, trade unions or religious organizations;
- organizations that are beneficiaries of the National Foundation's Systemic Support (Basic, National and Thematic);
- organizations that have signed Agreements with the National Foundation on Development Cooperation in the field of Knowledge Centers for Social Development, Program Cooperation through the Regional Civil Society Development Program, the "Active in the Community" Program and the i3.0 Strategic Partnerships.

Type of application

An applicant should submit an offer for cooperation in partnership with a member of one of the ALF National Networks (apart from the Croatian Network) who has had experience in promoting local community activities, including the inter-generational dimension, in their previous work.

For this purpose, the National Foundation, in cooperation with the ALF Secretariat, has prepared a [list](#) of organizations active in the field of **strengthening social cohesion and civic participation**, with a short description of their experiences and links to their websites, in order to facilitate contacts by applicants, with the aim of establishing a partnership. Only the listed organizations can be partners of Croatian organizations as applicants in this Call.

Acceptable activities

Proposals for establishing cooperation with the National Foundation within the framework of this Call should contain concrete and effective, but also innovative, activities that will be implemented in the local communities of the involved partners and be accessible and inclusive, i.e. encourage inter-generational cooperation and exchange of experiences.

Those activities should be aimed at increasing the quality of life in the local community, social inclusion, active aging and preserving physical and mental health, by empowering citizens of all generations to become change-makers through inter-generational cooperation and solidarity, which is to be achieved by designing and implementing pilot models that solve local challenges and improve common areas, relationships and services in the community.

Priority will be given to activities that are accessible to a larger number of users, adapted to excluded groups and designed so that they can remain sustainable even after the end of financial support.

Area of implementation of activities

Activities have to be implemented in the Republic of Croatia and partially in the country in which the partner organization operates, primarily at the local level, through the exchange of knowledge and experience.

Implementation period

Approved activities may be implemented in the period **from 1 September 2026 to 31 August 2027**. Activities may be implemented continuously or in cycles during the specified period

Criteria

When selecting acceptable initiatives/models, in addition to the aforementioned mandatory membership in the Croatian Network, the applicant's previous activity in the Network will also be taken into account (attendance at meetings, participation in joint activities, responses to inquiries from the Network Coordinator/Head of Network and completion of various surveys).

In addition, the following elements will be taken into account when evaluating offers for cooperation:

- quality and clarity of proposed activities/model;
- number and profile of involved beneficiaries;

- involvement of young people and senior citizens;
- cooperation with the local community;
- organizational capabilities of the bidders (applicant and partner);
- innovation and applicability of the proposed model, and
- sustainability of the model.

Financial framework

The amount of the financial support (per offer) is **up to EUR 25,000.00**.

The funds are intended to cover costs directly related to the implementation of the activities, in accordance with the specification (proposed Budget) that is an integral part of the application documentation.

Number of available financial supports

Up to 15 offers for cooperation with the National Foundation will be approved and financed under this Call.

One applicant may submit a maximum of one proposal. The number of participations of the same international partner in proposals from different applicants is not limited.

Notice on the results

The National Foundation will announce the results of this Call for Expressions of Interest during July 2026, and, if necessary, will organize talks with bidders for the purpose of additional clarification and coordination with other approved offers.

Inquiries

Applicants may submit questions regarding the terms of this Call **until 12 May 2026** at the latest, using the email address: alf@zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr for this purpose.

III. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFERS FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Interested bidders should submit their application to this Call for Expression of Interest no later than **May 20, 2026, by 2:00 p.m.**, using the system www.financijskepodrske.hr for this purpose

IV. HOW TO SUBMIT AN OFFER - TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS (not translated, for Applicants only)

V. REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION

Documentation that must be **uploaded to the system www.financijskepodrske.hr no later than May 12, 2026, by 2:00 p.m.** by the applicant organization:

1. Completed Application Form in open format - .doc (*on the prescribed form prepared by the National Foundation and the ALF Secretariat*);
2. Completed Budget Form in open format - .xls (*on the prescribed form prepared by the National Foundation*);
3. Completed Statement of Participation in the Partnership (*on the prescribed form prepared by the National Foundation*) - scanned (*note: 1. a certified electronic signature is also acceptable in accordance with the Electronic Signature Act; 2. if the organization*

does not use a seal, a Statement of Non-Use of a Seal signed by a person authorized to represent it must be attached);

4. Certificate from the Tax Administration on the state of debt in terms of public levies of which the official record is kept by the Tax Administration and from which it is evident that the applicant organization has no outstanding debt - in the original. The certificate must not be older than 30 days from the publishing date of this Call for Proposals - *scanned*;
5. Confirmation from the ALF Secretariat that the partner organization is a member of the relevant National Network (*the document is prepared by the partner organization and uploaded by the applicant*) - *scanned*.

NOTES ON DOCUMENTATION PREPARATION:

Application Form

- it is necessary to answer to all the questions listed in the Form;
- for an additional check of the prepared documentation, use the check-list of the attached documentation located on the last page of the Form and mark each attached item;
- the Application Form must be submitted in open format (.doc or similar);
- the Form is not signed separately – the signature and seal of the person authorized to represent the organization on the verification document (sent via e-mail) confirms that he/she is familiar with and agrees with the content of the application.

Budget Form

- the Budget Form is created in a way that it adds up the amounts entered in individual cost categories and calculates the total costs. Therefore, it is not possible to add rows independently. If you need additional rows, please contact the following email address for instructions: alf@zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr;
- the Form contains costs for the one-year period of support (*from 1 September 2026 to 31 August 2027*), expressed in euros (EUR);
- the Budget Form must include costs for both the applicant and the international partner, but separately (it is not possible to transfer funds to the account of another organization, so the presentation of all costs related to the international partner must be entered in a separate cost group, already provided in the Form);
- all the costs must relate directly to the activities and objectives of the Call;
- when filling out the Form, it is necessary to ensure that the financing for one person is not stated in multiple budget items and that the name/surname of the person to whom the payment is intended is stated in item (if known at the time of submission of the proposal);
- the budget should be aligned with the plan of activities, as described in the Application Form.

Additional recommendations for preparing the documentation

- all files must be prepared in open format (.doc, .xls and similar) while the scanned documents in .pdf format;
- file names should clearly include the name of the applicant organization and the type of document (e.g. "Organization_XY-ApplicationForm.doc");
- applications with incomplete or illegible documentation will not be considered.

VI. AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTATION

The documentation that needs to be submitted with the application is available on the official website of the National Foundation <https://zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr> and in the system www.financijskepodrske.hr to all the applicants and partners.

VII. DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure is carried out in three steps:

- 1) Verification of the fulfillment of the conditions of the Call - an administrative check of the received applications/offers for cooperation;
- 2) Expert assessment of applications that passed step 1 (above) – assessment by the evaluation body, in cooperation with the ALF Secretariat, followed by
- 3) A decision on the acceptance - based on the proposals of the evaluation body, made by National Foundation's Management Board.

All applicants will be notified of the results of the procedure in writing, and the results will be published on the National Foundation's website. After the decision to accept the offers is made, the National Foundation will sign the Cooperation Agreement with the organizations whose offers have been accepted, regulating mutual rights and obligations in the implementation of the approved activities.