

## FAQ's Open Calls Russia, Turkey, Egypt and Morocco

### About the Open Calls

*Will the next Open Calls in this programme be the same?*

Until the end of 2020, the Fund will be holding four Open Calls per country that focus on challenges associated with urbanization and social issues in Russia, Turkey, Morocco and Egypt. These Open Calls will open during autumn 2018, spring 2018, autumn 2019 and spring 2019. We regard this as an iterative process, whereby the exact focus of the future calls may be adjusted on the basis of the outcome of the previous calls. Hence, future calls may not be the same as this one.

### Application

*Who can apply?*

Applications can be submitted by any legal entity, whether NGO or a company, in the Netherlands. Proof of registration with a Dutch Chamber of Commerce, not more than 1 year old, is required.

*One of the requirements for the Open Calls Russia and Turkey is that applicants having already long-standing collaborations with one or more parties within the country. What do you mean by this?*

Because of the complicated context in both countries, it is important to already have experienced operating in that context. Therefore it is a requirement that at least one core team member already has network and experience in the country and that the team of the applicant includes someone who has collaborated with local parties. These do not necessarily have to be the same partners as those involved in the current proposal.

*Is it possible to submit an application for a project which is already running?*

Yes, but it is important to clearly state which part of the project you are applying for. Also, the start of this part of the project may not commence earlier than the decision of the Board. The decision date of phase 1 of the Open Call is expected around 6 weeks to a maximum of 10 weeks after the application deadline.

*Can I submit more than one applications for the Open Calls?*

It is possible to be the main applicant for the different Open Calls (Russia, Turkey, Egypt and Morocco). Though it has to be very clear that each project is unique and they differ in team, budget and hours spend. We do not recommend to submit two or more applications within the same Open Call.

*Can I be part of a team in several applications?*

Yes, but it has to be clear how the projects differ from each other, including finances. According to our Subsidy Regulations, there cannot be any overlap of subsidies. We advise to consider carefully whether you would be able to participate in several projects.

### Co-financing

*Do I need to have arranged the co-financing in phase 1?*

For phase 1, you only have to give an indication how you expect to organise the required co-financing. Please mention the types of co-financiers, the names of the co-financiers you want to involve in the project. You do have to make a budget plan for the first phase and make clear what the costs of the activities are. If you do have co-financing during phase 1, mention this in the budget plan.

You can find a template for a budget plan in our [Grant Application guide](#). For the application of phase 2, the co-financing arrangements need to be confirmed.

*What do you mean by a balanced distribution of the budget?*

There are no standards for an equally distributed budget between Dutch and local partners. It depends e.g. on the kind of project, the subject and location. In your application, it is important to justify your distribution of income and provide evidence of support of your collaboration on an equal footing. Types of co-financing include grants, loans, guarantees, and in-kind resources.

## **Evaluation**

*Who will select the projects?*

The precise composition of the advisory committee will be announced by the fund in the confirmation of receipt to applicants. This advisory committee will advise the fund on the selection of the projects of phase 1 as well as phase 2. The Board will appoint advisory committees for all Open Calls, which will include experts within the field of the Creative Industries as well as members that have in-depth knowledge of the countries concerned. The Fund will also enlist the advice of the Dutch Embassy and/or the Consulate General in the countries with regard to the local parties within the proposed coalition.

*Which priorities are set within the respective calls?*

The Open Calls support projects, interventions or processes that focus on how design, design thinking or processes can contribute to eventually contribute to more sustainable and inclusive cities. The activities should form a coherent whole and the project form should reinforce the content and vice versa. Thereby, the programme supports project plans with a long-term vision and the aim to build durable collaborations and (knowledge) networks between the Netherlands and the specific country. Apart from the objectives and conditions as set out in the Open Calls, there are no priorities or preferences in terms of desired output, character, shape or visibility of the project.

*How will the outcomes be evaluated?*

An impact assessment methodology is currently being developed.

## **Practical matters**

*Can you help me find a partner?*

We are glad to share all knowledge that we have as the Fund of the Dutch creative industries. On the basis of all queries that we receive, we may also be able to match prospective partners. You can thereby also contact the cultural attaché abroad for possible interesting partners.

*Do you have any tips on how to start a collaboration in these countries?*

Although the four countries are very different, they share a common feature: you will operate in a highly complex context. This also affects the cooperation with your partner(s). In addition to all the usual do's and don'ts of (international) collaborations you will need to appreciate the circumstances under which your partners operate. They may have to deal with long administrative processes, face restrictions in the way they receive foreign funding, and have constraints in terms of public exposure. Make sure you discuss these issues with your local partners when shaping your cooperation.

*What are the consequences, if projects cannot continue e.g. due to administrative or political reasons?*

Due to the complex local context in which the projects will be implemented, it is of course possible that the implementation of the project encounters difficulties or delays or even has to be stopped. It is important to be aware of these scenario's and anticipate on it in your project plan. If the project is granted and meanwhile such an event occurs, make sure you communicate and consult with the Fund as soon as possible. In the case of substantial changes, continuation is not guaranteed and the advisory committee will need to re-approve the adjusted project plan.