

Guidelines RRPP Research Projects

Purpose

- Art. 1 The RRPP provides funding for research projects in the social sciences conducted by researchers from partner institutions in the Western Balkans, thereby fostering social, economic and institutional transition reforms in both individual countries and the region.
- Art. 2 Funding up to CHF 25'000 may be granted for national projects and up to CHF 100'000 for regional projects per year, and shall contribute to cover costs for salaries, equipment and field work, in particular.
- Art. 3 During the first phase of the RRPP, funding is provided for projects with duration of two years. Initial funding is provided for 12 months.

Eligibility

- Art. 4 Applications for RRPP Research Project funding can be submitted by researchers from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia.

Conditions

- Art. 5 Applications must be submitted on the relevant form.
- Art. 6 The language of application is English.
- Art. 7 Applications may be submitted following calls by the RRPP Programme Management.

Criteria, Competence and Duration for Decision

- Art. 8 The following criteria are taken into considerations for the judgement of submitted applications:
- a) scientific quality;
 - b) relevance and link to the common umbrella topic defined for a given region;
 - c) feasibility of the research project;
 - d) regional dimension (cooperation and networking) of the project;
 - e) scientific competence of the applicants related to the submitted project;
 - f) implication of both younger and female researchers;
 - g) contribution of the research partner to the development and realisation of the research project.
- Art. 9 The evaluation process will be disseminated together with a specific call.

Obligations of Recipients

- Art. 10 For the transfer of approved RRPP funding for Research Projects, the receiving partner organisation needs to open a separate account.
- Art. 11 Recipients are obliged to use the approved funding for the purposes specified in the application form. Any deviation must be reported to the RRPP Programme Management.
- Art. 12 Unused RRPP Research Project funds may not be used for the implementation of other research projects.
- Art. 13 Two reports need to be submitted to the Local Coordination Unit (LCU): a progress report, six months into the first and second year of the project, and an annual report after completion of every twelve-month period. The applicant(s) provide(s) the following information (maximum of 5 pages): output of the project and deviations from the original research proposal, improve-

ment of the research capacity, regional cooperation, and financial summary on the use of the RRPP funding.

- Art. 14 If the RRPP Steering Board, upon consultation with both the RRPP Scientific Board and Programme Management, concludes that the partner organisation did not sufficiently implement the planned activities or fulfil the set aims, additional funding for a second year will not be granted.

Misuse and Sanctions

- Art. 15 Any misuse of RRPP Research Project funds or violation of the relevant guidelines will be avenged by the RRPP Programme Management in appropriate ways and can lead to the exclusion of the applicant from submitting future requests for any RRPP funding.
- Art. 16 In case the applicants do not provide interim or final reports on their research project financed by the RRPP, the funding will be discontinued.