

# **Financial Reporting**

## Tempus IV

Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Kiev 16 November 2016

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### 1. General principles

- **Exchange rate**
- **Co-financing**
- **Transfer of money**

### **2. Budget headings** (purpose, rules, supporting documents)

- Staff costs
- Tendering procedure & Rule of origin
- **Equipment costs**
- **Printing & Publishing costs**
- > Travel costs and costs of stay
- Other costs
- Indirect costs

### 3. Final Report

- **Financial report**
- **External Audit report**

### 4. Ex-post financial checks & audits



### 1. General principles

Exchange rate
Co-financing
Transfer of money







# All transactions ≠ EUR must be converted and reported in EUR in the Financial Statement of the Final Report

### Only 2 exchange rates should be applied:

- 1. From the start of the eligibility period until the date of receipt of the second pre-financing: the rate of the month you receive the first pre-financing
- 2. From the date of receipt of the second pre-financing until the end of the project: the rate of the month you receive the second pre-financing

The rate to be applied is the monthly accounting rate established by the Commission and published on its website: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro">http://ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro</a>





### **Co-financing**

Point 9. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

- ➤ The co-financing **should represent at least 10%** of the total eligible costs at the end of the project
- > The co-financing percentage is specific for each project (and it is indicated in Art. I.3 of your Grant Agreement)

### **Actual co-financing** (minimum 10%):

- → Can only cover **direct** eligible costs (no "Indirect Costs")
- → Cannot cover costs which are not eligible for Tempus funding
- → Same supporting documents as for expenditure paid by the Tempus grant
- → Should be declared in the Final Financial Report
- → Will be considered and assessed for the calculation of the total eligible costs at the end of the project





### **Transfer of money**

#### **Evidence of the money circuit from EACEA to the <u>final recipient</u>:**

- 1st level: EACEA -> Coordinator
- 2<sup>nd</sup> level: Coordinator ->Partner HEIs
- 3<sup>rd</sup> level: Partner HEIs -> Staff member / Supplier

#### **Principles to respect for all transactions** (Art. II.19 of the Grant Agreement):

- √ Recorded in the accounting records of the partner
- ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Traceability
- ✓ Identifiable and verifiable
- √ Comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation

It is the responsibility of the consortium to agree the best approach for paying/reimbursing costs incurred on project activities and to define the appropriate modalities.



### 2. Budget headings

Purpose
Contractual rules
Supporting documents





### I. Staff costs

Point 3. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant



### **Purpose**

To cover the costs of staff directly necessary for the achievement of the results and not covered by other sources (3.1 Guidelines):

- ✓ Administrative or academic tasks
- ✓ Course development, maintenance of online courses/website, etc.
- ✓ Language / IT courses, translation services, evaluation activities <u>when</u> <u>performed by internal staff</u> (if sub-contracted → Other costs)

# Contractual rules

- Salaries and fees should reflect the employing institution's usual policy on remuneration and respect local salary rates
- Maximum reference daily rates per country: Guidelines/Annex 3
- ➤ Total expenditure for Staff Costs cannot exceed the 40% ceiling (plus 10 % flexibility) Co-financing is also subject to the 40% ceiling





### I. Staff costs

FAQ No. 55

Please provide translation in <u>English</u> of key words, amounts, dates, currencies

# Supporting

In all cases the beneficiary shall retain with project accounts:

- **I. Staff Conventions** (Guidelines/Annex 1)
- II. Formal employment relationship: contractual link between the staff member and the institution (employment contract, employment history book)
- III. Timesheet: proof of the time spent on Tempus activities
- **IV. Proof of payment**: bank transfer statement, cash receipts, accountancy records
- V. Methodology for the calculation of the daily rate:

Gross salary + social security contributions / number of working days per year





### I. Staff costs

FAQ No. 55

# **Supporting documents**

**VI. Staff remuneration** - To justify salary rates the following documents should also be available:

- **A. If staff is remunerated by the project** <u>directly</u> (full-time, part-time, occasional or top-up of regular salary):
- Employment contract and/or employment history book
- Ad-hoc decision by the governing body for the level of remuneration for Tempus projects
- Proof of payment (i.e. bank transfer until the <u>final recipient</u>)
- **B. If staff is remunerated through its <u>normal salary</u>** (i.e. Tempus related tasks are part of the regular assignment at the university):
- Employment contract and/or employment history book
- Salary slips
- Proof of payment (i.e. bank transfer until the <u>final recipient</u>)

The beneficiary shall <u>provide</u> with final report: explanation & supporting documents (i.e. salary slip) if salary rates exceed the Tempus ceilings (Guidelines/Annex 3).





# Tendering procedure & Rule of origin





### **Tendering Procedure**

Art. I.10.1 Grant Agreement + Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

The beneficiary shall apply the tendering procedure for the purchase of

#### any kind of goods or services

WHENEVER the amount of the purchase or sub-contract is

### above the threshold of EUR 25,000

- ✓ To be sent with the Final Report: copy of the invoice (+ sub-contract for services)
- ✓ To be listed in the final Financial Statement of the Final Report:

  Names of the providers consulted (min. 3)
- ✓ To be retained with the project accounts: proof of awarding procedure and at least 3 quotations

The **purchase cannot be split** into smaller contracts with individual amounts lower than the threshold

The selection criterion for the offers should be the **best value for money** 





### Rule of origin (only for 2013 projects)

Art. I.10.1 Grant Agreement + Guidelines for the Use of the Grant FAQ No. 51

**All equipment** purchased by the project shall comply with the rule of origin and shall therefore **originate from any EU Member State or from an eligible country** (as defined in the relevant EU Regulations).

✓ A certificate of origin shall be kept with the project accounts for any
equipment item of a unit cost above EUR 5,000.

Certificate of origin: document made out by the competent authorities of the country of origin of the equipment (such as Chamber of Commerce) – it is to be asked to the supplier.





### II. Equipment

Point 5. Guidelines for the use of the grant



### **Purpose**

To cover the costs of equipment directly relevant to the project's objectives such as:

- IT equipment (hardware and software) including costs for installing internet connection and laboratory supply (teaching purposes)
- books, e-books, publications
- access to database
- equipment insurance/ transport/ installation, maintenance of equipment

Prior authorisation required for hire of equipment

#### The equipment must:

- be exclusively for PC Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) included in the partnership (JP)
- be exclusively for PC HEIs /institutions/organisations included in the partnership (SM) Not public administrations!
- be recorded in the inventory of the institution where it is installed
- comply with the rule of origin (only for 6th Call generation projects)

Total expenses for equipment cannot exceed the 30% ceiling (plus 10% of flexibility). Co-financing is also subject to the 30% ceiling

Deductible VAT is not eligible.

# Contractual rules



### II. Equipment

Point 5. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

# **Supporting documents**

#### The beneficiary shall <u>retain</u> with project accounts:

- All invoices for all equipment declared costs
- Proofs of payment (bank statement)
- Proofs of tendering procedure (including min. 3 quotations) for purchases above EUR 25,000
- Certificate of origin for equipment of a unit cost above EUR 5,000 (only for 2013 projects)
- Proof that VAT is not deductible (if VAT exemption is not obtained and VAT costs are charged to the project budget)
- Registration in the inventory registry

#### The beneficiary shall provide with the final report:

- Readable **copies of invoices** if the purchase is above EUR 25,000
- The names of the companies consulted (min. 3) have to be indicated in the *Financial Statement* of the final report





### **III. Printing & Publishing**

Point 6. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant



**Purpose** 

Printing & Publishing budget heading can cover:

- paper and electronic productions (electronic form)
- photocopying of teaching materials/documentation

General photocopying → Indirect Costs

Contractual rules

VAT ineligible unless the beneficiary can show that VAT is not deductible

Internal staff costs cannot be covered by this budget heading





### III. Printing & Publishing

Point 6. Guidelines for the use of the grant

# **Supporting documents**

#### The beneficiary shall retain with project accounts:

- all invoices
- Proofs of payment (bank statement)
- Proofs of tendering procedure (including min. 3 quotations) for purchases above EUR 25,000
- Proof that VAT is not deductible (if VAT exemption is not obtained and VAT costs are charged to the project budget)

N.B. Internal invoices to be issued for in-house printing and publishing

#### The Beneficiary shall provide with the final report:

- Copies of invoices if the costs are above EUR 25,000
- The names of the companies consulted (min. 3) have to be indicated in the *Financial Statement* of the final report





# IV. Travel costs and Costs of stay – Staff

Point 4.3 Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

Purpose

To cover the costs of travel and subsistence allowances of staff for mobilities mainly linked to:

- teaching/training assignments, retraining
- update of courses
- practical placements
- short visits for coordination and planning
- language training
- Dissemination

N.B. Travel for research activities is not allowed

# Contractual rules

The budget for Travel Costs and Costs of Stay should:

- cover only actual travel costs (including visa fee and related obligatory insurance, travel insurance and cancellation costs if justified)
- cover the daily allowance: the ceilings per person (per day/week) indicated at point 4.3.3 of the Guidelines must be respected





### IV. Travel costs and Costs of stay-Students



Point 4.4 Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

**Purpose** 

To cover the costs of travel and subsistence allowances of students for mobilities mainly linked to:

- study periods abroad
- practical placements in a company
- intensive courses for Partner Country students
- participation of student representatives in management coordination meetings & Quality Control

# Contractual rules

### The budget for Travel Costs and Costs of Stay should:

- cover only actual travel costs (including visa fee and related obligatory insurance, travel insurance and cancellation costs if justified)
- cover an allowance for <u>subsistence</u> / <u>accommodation</u> / <u>local transport</u> and <u>personal insurance</u>: the ceiling per month and per person indicated at point 4.4.3 of the Guidelines must be respected.

The duration of student mobilities should be minimum 2 weeks and maximum 3 months.



### IV. Travel costs and costs of stay

Point 4. Guidelines for the use of the grant

# **Supporting documents**

#### The beneficiary shall retain with project accounts:

- a SIGNED & filled-in Individual Mobility Report for each mobility using the standard form (Guidelines/Annex 2)
- readable copies of travel tickets, invoices, boarding passes, receipts, etc.

The beneficiary is not requested to send any supporting documents with the Final report.

\* General principle: mobilities only between the participating institutions





### V. Other costs

Point 7. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant

### **Purpose**

"Other costs" budget heading can cover costs related to:

- Dissemination of information (advertising in media, promotional materials such as pen, bags, posters, etc.)
- Inter-project coaching (maximum of EUR 2,500)
- Bank charges (including bank guarantee charges where requested)
- > External audit fees
- Costs of sub-contracts (specific and time-bound tasks)
- Hire of premises only for dissemination events (prior EACEA authorisation needed)

For sub-contracts: prior autorisation needed when total value > EUR 10,000 (only for 6th Call generation projects)

Amongst ineligible costs (see point 10.2 Guidelines):

- hospitality costs
- costs related to the use of materials & equipment incurred by institutions when hosting students/staff
- registration fees for courses/conferences
- exchange losses
- deductible VAT

# Contractual rules





### V. Other costs

Point 7. Guidelines for the use of the grant

# **Supporting documents**

### The beneficiary shall <u>retain</u> with project accounts:

- Invoices
- Proofs of payment (bank statement)
- Sub-contracts
- Travel related supporting documents for mobilities of sub-contracted experts
- Bank statements for bank charges, etc.
- Proof that VAT is not deductible (if VAT exemption is not obtained and VAT costs are charged to the project budget)

#### The Beneficiary shall provide with the final report:

- Copies of sub-contracts and invoices if the costs are above EUR 25,000 (3 quotation to be retained)
- The names of the companies consulted (min. 3) have to be indicated in the *Financial statement* of the final report





### **SUB-CONTRACTING**

Grant Agreement - Annex VI, Art II.9 and II.10 FAQs No. 6 and 50

- Only specific and time-bound tasks that cannot be performed by the beneficiaries can be subcontracted (no core activities!)
- PRIOR APPROVAL BY EACEA is needed if the total value of the sub-contract is higher than EUR 10,000 (even if the sub-contract was already planned and budgeted in the application)
- Related costs always to be charged to "Other Costs" budget heading (including travels of sub-contracted experts)





### **VI. Indirect Costs**

Point 8. Guidelines for the Use of the Grant



### **Purpose**

"Indirect Costs" budget heading can cover the costs incurred by the project for:

- stationary, office supplies, general photocopying
- postage and telecommunication
- use of internet/communication software/etc.

# Contractual rules

- They are **eligible for flat-rate funding of 7%** of the <u>total eligible</u> <u>direct costs</u> (see Art. I.3 and II.19.3 of the Grant Agreement).
- At the end of the project, the Indirect Costs incurred and declared will be considered eligible as long as they:
  - do not exceed the absolute amount shown for Indirect Costs in Annex II of the Grant Agreement (approved budget)
  - do not represent more than 7% of the total actual eligible direct costs following the financial assessment





### **VI. Indirect Costs**

Point 8. Guidelines for the use of the grant

**Supporting** documents

**NO supporting document is required** 

N.B. Co-financing is NOT permitted under this budget heading





## 3. Final Reporting

Financial Report

Audit Report





### **Final Financial Report**

Annex IV of the Grant Agreement

➤ To be submitted with the Final Report on Implementation of the Project. It is made up of two parts:

### A. "Financial statement and request of final payment"

- ✓ Includes indication of costs incurred under each budget heading // bank interests not to be declared for 2013 projects)
- ✓ Is to be signed in original by the Legal Representative

### **B.** "Financial tables" (excel sheets)

✓ must be filled-in in detail for each budget heading to justify all expenses incurred

#### **General advice:**

- Collect the required supporting documents as soon as the expenditure is incurred
- Keep the financial statement/tables up to date (form available on the website)
- > Feel free to provide detailed explanations in the financial statement
- Contact EACEA in case of doubt



# Report of Factual Findings on the Final Financial Report (External Audit Report)

Art. I.4.1 Grant Agreement

➤ To be submitted with the Final Report on Implementation of the Project

**WHAT IS?** Verification whether costs are declared correctly and truthfully and backed by proper supporting documents, in accordance with the provisions of contractual documents

**BY WHOM?** By a nationally certified auditor or a competent public officer with the linguistic competences (report to be written in the project language: English, French or German)

**HOW?** Mandatory use of EACEA audit certificate template

**RELATED COSTS?** Estimated between EUR 5,000 and 12,000 to be charged to "Other Costs" budget heading

Check FAQ No. 3 and audit certificate template on our website!



## 4. Ex-post Financial Checks and Audits

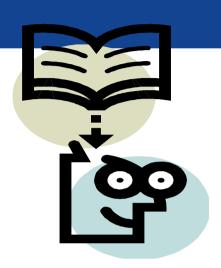




### **Ex-post Financial Checks & Audits**

Art. II.27 Grant Agreement

- Following a random or risk-based approach
- Ean be performed by EACEA own staff or any other outside body acting on the Agency's behalf
- **→**Ean be performed by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Court of Auditors (ECA)
- During the implementation and up to 5 years after the date of the payment of the final balance
- **→**erification whether:
  - the declared expenses have been actually incurred and registered in the statutory records of the beneficiaries;
  - the declared expenses are in accordance with the rules as laid out in the contractual documentation.





# Reference documents to be consulted regularly:

- > Grant Agreement
- > Guidelines for the use of the grant
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- > EACEA Financial Information Kit

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus

Thank you for your attention!

