

CALL FOR EXPERTS

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The Joint Secretariat (JS) of the Interreg NEXT Poland–Ukraine 2021-2027 Programme is launching call for external experts to evaluate applications submitted within the Programme priorities HEALTH and ENVIRONMENT

Background information

The overall aim of the Interreg NEXT Poland–Ukraine 2021-2027 Programme is to support cross-border development processes in the borderland of Poland and Ukraine, in line with the Interreg objectives laid down in Interreg Regulation (2021/1059). As its predecessors, the Programme is directed at Polish and Ukrainian border regions and all non-profit oriented institutions coming from these regions.

The 1st Call for Proposals within the Programme has been launched on 31 May 2023. It will last till 31 July 2023. The Call is open only for the priorities Environment and Health and all their specific objectives:

1. ENVIRONMENT
 - 1.1 Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account ecosystem-based approaches
 - 1.2 Promoting access to water and sustainable water management
 - 1.3 Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution
2. HEALTH
 - 2.1 Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care and promoting the transition from institutional to family-based and community-based care

The Programme will provide up to 90% co-financing (on the grant contract basis) for the projects approved by the Monitoring Committee. More information on the Call for Proposals announced on 31 May 2023 you can find [HERE](#).

Aim of the call for external experts

The aim of the call for external experts is to invite interested candidates possessing adequate experience and knowledge in the areas of cross-border cooperation, regional development, Programme specific character and legal basis. By creation of the Pool of Assessors a tool for professional and equitable handling of the assessment process will be introduced. The selected assessors will perform the quality assessment of application forms submitted under the respective Call for Proposals (ENVIRONMENT and HEALTH).

General procedure for the quality assessment of project proposals

Each project application undergoes a formal and a quality evaluation process. The formal assessment is conducted exclusively by experts from the Joint Secretariat. Project applications that successfully pass the formal assessment will then proceed to the quality evaluation stage, which is carried out by both the JS and external experts.

As the first step the Joint Secretariat will set up the pool of assessors and then will invite selected ones to sign a contract to evaluate agreed number of applications. The tasks of the external experts will be evaluation of the proposals and attached documentation on the basis of evaluation criteria and in accordance with the Evaluation and Assessment Manual which can be found [HERE](#).

Remuneration

The expert is entitled to a fee of EUR 200 (gross) per each application evaluated. One expert may receive more than one application for evaluation within one call.

Requirements regarding the profiles of the experts

In order to establish a pool of assessors at the Programme level, the JS is looking for experienced individuals (thematic experts, professional consultants, practitioners, academic researchers, etc.) who will form the pool of assessors. Prospective independent experts are expected to have a high level of professional experience in one or more thematic fields covered by the Programme's Priorities and the respective specific objectives within announced 1st Call for Proposals (ENVIRONMENT and HEALTH). Hence, interested experts must fulfill the following requirements:

- have a university degree
- have at least 5 years of professional experience (following the award of the university degree) acquired in positions related to one or more thematic fields of the Programme Priorities and the specific objectives covered by the 1st Call for Proposals (ENVIRONMENT and HEALTH);
- have relevant professional experience in the Polish-Ukrainian regional cooperation and/or development issues and possess adequate background knowledge about the regions covered by the Programme;
- have proven experience in cohesion policy, European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg) and/or international cooperation;
- have experience in assessment or evaluation tasks at programme and/or project level;
- be fluent in speaking, reading and writing English;
- be computer savvy (major work to be completed within an IT application).

Experience in the assessment of proposals for cooperation projects under national, European or international funding programmes as well as under programmes directly managed by the European Commission is considered as an advantage.

Experts should also dispose of expertise on cross cutting issues such as:

- cross-border cooperation;
- cross-border project management and budgetary issues;

- administration, management and/or evaluation of projects, Programmes or policies;
- analysis and monitoring of policy measures and instruments;
- exploitation of project results, dissemination, communication, capitalisation and/or knowledge transfer.

Communication

We kindly invite interested experts to submit their documents, i.e. professional resume and attached application form by email at js@pl-ua.eu until **1 August 2023** at the latest. In case of any questions please contact the JTS by e-mail at js@pl-ua.eu