

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – CALL FOR PROPOSAL: HUB FESTIVALS

- **What will the funding be used for? To organize activities during the festival that is applying. Or for an activity outside of the festival?**

The funding will primarily finance collaboration and mobility activities. Details can be found in the project information sheet.

- **What are the criteria for a large festival and a small festival (in the context of the program)?**

We will be looking closely at the festival's experience in financial and organizational management, as well as the scale and suitability of its facilities to support a medium-sized festival. For more details, please refer to the guidelines in the call for applications.

- **Does the funding require a sub-regional partnership? That is to say, do we necessarily have to have a partner from outside our country?**

Yes, you have to demonstrate your ability to create synergy with other medium-sized festivals in order to bring them real added value.

- **In the event that a festival consortium (a group of festivals) is eligible, does the consortium have to be legal (a structure in itself), or can it just be a network supported by a structure?**

The GAP platform does not allow for multiple applicants. In the case of a consortium, the project must be led by a single legally recognized organization.

- **It has been emphasized that the \*organization applying must have been in existence for at least 5 years\*. Does this mean that the festival must also have been in existence for 5 years?**

The organization applying for and hosting the festival must have been in existence for at least five years. The same applies to the festival itself.

- **Will grants be awarded to cultural associations or businesses?**

It is granted to any cultural organization that meets the conditions for access to the subsidy as indicated in the guidelines.

- **Will there be an opportunity for medium-sized associations to apply?**

When we talk about large or medium-sized festivals, we are referring to festivals and not associations. If you were referring to festivals, then the answer is that medium-sized festivals are not eligible for this call for proposals.

- **Must all projects be carried out between several actors in West Africa?**

Yes ; it is a question of developing synergies between the various festivals that deal with more or less the same themes in order to strengthen the capacities of medium-sized festivals.

- **What period should the submitted project cover?**

The project will be completed in February 2028, so proposals submitted must cover the period between June 2026 and December 2027.

- **Must financial statements comply with the OHADA model?**

Yes, if the law is in force in your country during the requested period.

- **When are the results of the call expected?**

The results of this call will be available at the end of 2025.

- **Are the 5 years of recordings final?**

Yes

- **If we are not eligible for this first call for proposals, can we reapply for the call for festival funding?**

Yes

- **For a public festival, what document can be submitted in place of the tax registration document?**

The decree establishing the structure may be submitted instead.

- **Would it be possible to have the document that was presented during the information session?**

All information is available on our platforms.

- **What about organizations whose bank accounts are in the name of their presidents and which do not have bank statements in the name of the organization?**

Ineligible

- **Should projects be regional or involve two or three of the 15 countries?**

All collaborative projects are eligible.

- **Can members of a festival consortium apply individually with their personal projects, regardless of whether the consortium is applying?**

The consortium must already have legal documents in order to apply.

- **When will the second call take place?**

The next call for proposals for medium-sized festivals will take place during the last quarter of 2025.

- **Will the major festivals selected be involved in selecting the festivals to be included in the cluster (second call)?**

No

- **Should the consortium be legally autonomous or can it be supported by a member organization?**

You must have legal recognition with the documents that certify it.

- **How would the major festival support medium-sized festivals?**

Through collaboration, capacity building, networking, creativity, etc.

- **How will the grant payments be made?**

Details will be provided to the selected organisations in the contracts.

- **With regard to legal personality, who should be registered? The festival organised by the organisation itself?**

Festivals are generally organised by a legal entity. It is this entity that should be registered.

- **Are Switzerland and the United Kingdom included in this project as part of the partnership?**

Switzerland is included, but the United Kingdom has left the European Union. It is therefore not part of the project's implementation area.

- **Should the €100,000 fund be distributed among a group (set of countries)?**

No

- **Should the winning festival that leads the clusters and artists organise a festival together?**

This is a support programme. It is not about organising a festival together.

- **Would extended reality technology (AR/VR/MR) fall into one of the categories listed?**

These are cross-cutting themes that can be taken into account in many sectors of activity.

- **If the festival started last year and is in its second year this year, can we still apply?**

No.

- **What types of public institutions are eligible? For example, are local authorities or ministries themselves eligible?**

Our call for applications is for festivals organised by public institutions.

- **Can a company that is not registered as a limited company but is still registered apply?**

If the organisation is legally recognised as operating in the cultural field and as the organiser of a festival that meets the criteria of our call for applications, it is eligible.

- **Can the lead applicant be based in Dublin (Ireland) and work with another organisation in Nigeria?**

No. It is the other way around.

- **Is an NGO that has been active for more than five years and has been organising a festival for three years eligible?**

The jury will decide.

- **Will people from Portuguese-speaking countries who do not have access to an information session have someone to help them complete their application?**

They are allowed to submit their application in Portuguese. However, efforts are being made to enable them to understand all the calls for proposals.

- **Is this a multi-year grant?**

This is a one-off grant for a festival that can be held between 1 June 2026 and 31 December 2027.

- **What characterises a festival?**

In our view, a festival is a recurring cultural or artistic event that brings together diverse audiences for shows, exhibitions, screenings, concerts or workshops. It celebrates and promotes a specific cultural expression, encouraging exchanges, diversity and dialogue between artists and spectators. It can be local, national or international and plays a key role in promoting heritage, economic development and social cohesion.

- **Are you looking for African organisations willing to collaborate with European non-profit organisations or European individuals and professionals based in Africa or Europe?**

The aim of the project is not only to promote collaboration between African artists themselves, but also to build bridges between them and their European counterparts.

- **Is it possible to apply for aid under the Sub-Saharan Africa component and also under the West Africa component?**

Yes

- **In certain situations where funding is obtained both as an organisation and as a director, are we required to share both audited accounts?**

If this happens, it means that the individual has applied for a mobility grant or training course. As long as it is not the same call for applications, it could be acceptable.

- **Should a Ghanaian candidate create a cluster comprising only Ghanaian festivals, or can this cluster include festivals from other West African countries?**

It is not the candidate's responsibility to create a cluster.

- **What is a cluster?**

A cluster, in our case, is a grouping of countries that constitute an administrative and territorial management entity. For example, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are a cluster. Togo and Benin constitute a cluster. There are also clusters consisting of a single country. This is the case with Nigeria and Ghana.

- **How many festival projects can a professional submit?**

It is desirable to submit only one project per organization.

- **Where can we find the project document?**

The project document is available on the Goethe-Institut website.

(<https://www.goethe.de/resources/files/pdf354/tp---call-for-application-in-french.pdf> / <https://www.goethe.de/resources/files/pdf354/call-for-application-in-english-.pdf> )

- **Is there a contact person for information for those who are unable to attend the information sessions?**

Yes, you can write to the following address: [EUP-WA@goethe.de](mailto:EUP-WA@goethe.de)

- **Would it be possible to obtain recordings of the information sessions?**

Recordings are not shared externally. If you have any questions, you can always send them to the email address above or visit the Goethe Institut website.

- **Are public festivals eligible?**

If you mean festivals organised by state-run organisations, then yes.

- **What are the selection criteria?**

There are criteria for each call for proposals or applications. Calls will refer to these criteria each time they are launched.

- **Will the six major festivals selected be based across the entire continent or only in West Africa?**

These grants only apply to the 15 countries covered by the West Africa component of the project, namely:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.



- **Is the 'training and networking' component explicitly budgetable (workshops, mentorship, labs, professional meetings, showcases)? If so, what are the ceilings/ratios?**

Yes, activities that contribute to achieving the project's objectives are accepted. Please refer to the call for festival hubs for more information on eligible activities.

- **Is it possible to obtain the schedule for calls for proposals for medium-sized festivals?**

A specific announcement will be made to this effect.

- **For music, do you fund festivals and cultural events that are becoming more international, or only networking/training activities?**

Yes, everything must go through a call for proposals, and a panel will make the selection.

- **Can proposals be submitted by a consortium?**

Yes.

- **Is it possible to promote architectural cultural heritage in your programme?**

Yes, this is the continental component. You can find more information at the following link: ([https://www.goethe.de/prj/aep/en/index.html?wt\\_sc=aepc](https://www.goethe.de/prj/aep/en/index.html?wt_sc=aepc) )

- **Are cultural environment projects eligible?**

I'm not quite sure I understand the question, but the environment is a cross-cutting theme in this project.

- **Is technical support available?**

You can always share your concerns at the following address: [EUP-WA@goethe.de](mailto:EUP-WA@goethe.de)

- **Should a federation representing several festivals apply on behalf of all of them, or can each festival apply individually?**

You can apply for one activity at a time. Either with the federation or with each organisation independently.

- **What criteria were used for the festival mapping that has already been done?**

The first criterion was geographical. We focused on festivals taking place in the 15 countries of West Africa that make up the implementation area of the West Africa component. The second criterion was the artistic field in which the festival is organised.

- **Would it be possible to have a map of the festivals?**

The mapping was created for internal project purposes.

- **Can a festival that is in its first year apply?**

Not for this call. It takes years of experience.

- **Can a festival taking place in February 2026 apply?**

This call for proposals is aimed at large festivals capable of supporting medium-sized festivals. It is not intended to fund only the activities of the festival itself, which lasts only a few days.

- **Are cultural associations that organize festivals eligible?**

Yes

- **Can NGOs and companies active in the sector apply for the project?**

Yes. As long as they are festival organisers and meet the criteria for funding applications.

- **Does the first phase of the project take capacity building into account?**

Does the first phase of the project take capacity building into account?

- **Does the project also concern online ticketing platforms?**

The project concerns festivals held in West Africa.

- **Is a new festival initiative eligible?**

Some experience is required for this first call.

- **Do the ministries responsible for culture in the countries concerned intervene in the selection of festivals or beneficiaries?**

No, independent juries made up of experts in the cultural field will be set up to analyse bids and select projects.

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Please refer to the guidelines for the call for proposals on the website.

- **Please note the guidelines for the call for tenders on the website.**

Please apply and the jury will appreciate it.

- **Is there a call for applications to benefit from the upcoming training courses? If so, where will the application forms be available?**

Yes, information about each activity will be provided on our communication platforms.

- **What are the criteria for defining the size of a 'major festival'?**

We will proceed based on the festival's experience, scope, organisational and financial capacity.

- **Will festival promoters be able to participate in the training sessions?**

Yes

- **Was the mapping of festivals done in collaboration with the ministries of culture?**

Yes.

- **Would it be possible to obtain a list of cluster representatives?**

Yes, you can find them on the following website: [EUP-WA@goethe.de](mailto:EUP-WA@goethe.de)

- **Does the project only concern festival organizers?**

No.

- **What is the registration procedure for internships and training courses?**

Information will be provided on the project's communication platforms.

- **Is it possible to register for training courses only?**

Yes.

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No.

- **Are the work packages linked to the projects selected after the first call for proposals is launched?**

The work packages are the main areas of focus for the project.

- **Do we benefit from all work packages or only a few in particular?**

Everything is accessible depending on the applicants.

- **Which sectors of activity will benefit from the programme?**

Audiovisual cinema and animation – Heritage – Literature – Music – Performing arts – Visual arts.

- **What is an internationalisation workshop?**

The aim is to provide participants with useful knowledge that will help them export their art.

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It is up to the jury to decide on the relevance of the offers and activities.