EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS (ECHO)

ECHO.A - Emergency Management and rescEU
A.2 – Capacities and Operational Support

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

FOR THE ACTION 'RESCEU STOCKPILING OF MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES AND/OR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, AIMED AT COMBATTING SERIOUS CROSS-BORDER THREATS TO HEALTH'

General information

1. Context and objective of the grant

Decision 1313/2013/EU[1] as amended by Decision 2019/420/EU[2] defines the legal framework of rescEU and lays down the corresponding financial provisions. rescEU aims at providing assistance in overwhelming situations where overall existing capacities at national level and those committed by Member States to the European Civil Protection Pool are not able to ensure an effective response.

Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1310[3] specifies the rules applicable to rescEU capacities (criteria for deployment, demobilisation and disengagement).

Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570, as amended by Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414[4], includes medical stockpiling capacities under rescEU and lays down the relevant quality requirements.

The objective of this grant is to develop and maintain a rescEU stockpile of medical countermeasures and/or personal protective equipment aimed at combatting cross-border health threats. The duration of the grant agreement should be at least five years and the quantities should be sufficient to constitute a relevant safety net at EU level.

The stockpile may cover the following categories of items, for the purpose of preparedness and response to COVID-19 and Ebola:

1. Personal protective equipment for first responders, laboratory workers or health care workers:
    - Respiratory protection (FFP2, FFP3)
    - Body protection
    - Hand protection
    - Eye protection
    - Foot protection
2. Intensive care medical equipment (this may comprise, but is not limited to, intensive care ventilators)
3. Vaccines and therapeutics against Ebola for high risk potential contacts, first responders, laboratory workers, health care workers, family members and other defined vulnerable groups

[1] Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924–947

[2] Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2019 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, OJ L 77I , 20.3.2019, p. 1–15

[3] Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1310 of 31 July 2019 laying down rules on the operation of the European Civil Protection Pool and rescEU (notified under document C(2019) 5614), OJ L 204, 2.8.2019, p. 94–99

[4] Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414 of 19 March 2020 amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570 as regards medical stockpiling rescEU capacities

4. PPE kits to protect against Ebola for high risk potential contacts, first responders, laboratory workers, health care workers, family members and other defined vulnerable groups.

Following the conclusions of the Task Team meeting to be held in September[5], further items may be included in the applications. In this case, the Commission will send relevant information to all Member and Participating States.

2. Partnership-based approach

The development of new rescEU capacities is undertaken by Member States, in close coordination with the Commission. Strong partnership-based relationships between the Member States/Participating States applying for a grant and the Commission are essential to the successful development of rescEU capacities. Funding of specific assets can only be granted if they meet the needs identified by the Member States experts.

The Commission should be kept informed of the main steps taken by the applicant for the development of the capacities. This will ensure that the capacities are developed in line with the needs identified by the Member and Participating States experts and that the grant execution follows European level developments of rescEU.

With regard to procurement procedures carried out by the applicant to develop the capacity, the relevant procurement documents must be made available to the Commission at the stage of the application. If the procedure has not been launched yet, it is highly recommended to inform the Commission about the technical specifications before launching the tender. This is to ensure compatibility with other European initiatives being carried out at the same time and fulfilment of technical requirements defined in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570, as amended by Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414. The result of the award procedure must be communicated to the Commission within 5 calendar days after the end of the procedure. If the procedure has already been launched or is finalised, the related documents could be requested by the Commission during the evaluation of the application.

If, during the implementation period, the applicant organises meetings, workshops, or trainings related to technical characteristics of the capacity or its use, the Commission will have to be informed in advance. Where possible, representatives of the Commission may attend those meetings, workshops and trainings as observers.

3. Conditions for Union financial support

The application must be submitted in writing, using the present application form and drafted in one of the EU languages. However, in order to facilitate assessment by evaluators, applicants, if the application is not in English language, are encouraged to submit an English translation.

Only competent authorities of Member and Participating States in the context of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism may submit an application, or entities authorised by a Member State to develop rescEU capacities and to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State.

[5] The indicative date of the remote meeting is 2 September 2020. The Commission will confirm the date and connection mode to all Member and Participating States in the second half of August.

Applicants must not be in an exclusion situation as referred to in Article 136 of the Financial Regulation[6].

This application relates to the development and maintenance of a rescEU capacity for a duration of at least five years. The eligible activities under this grant are all those necessary to the development and the maintenance of the capacity. For medical stockpiling, the development phase corresponds to the acquisition, rental or leasing, as well as in-house building of the capacity or components of the capacity. The maintenance phase corresponds to the activities necessary to ensure that the items are functional and deployable at all times. Training costs linked to the first use of the capacity are in principle included in the development costs.

The development and maintenance of capacities may only receive a grant if the capacity meets the necessary quality requirements specified in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570, as amended by Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414. The mandatory requirements to be met for each category of medical items are detailed below. Only applications for capacities meeting the quality requirements laid down in the Annex to Implementing Decision 2019/570 as detailed in the mandatory technical requirements will be considered for funding.

The eligible categories of costs are defined in Annex IA of the Decision 1313/2013/EU[7] as amended by Decision (EU) 2019/420[8] :

- Equipment costs
- Maintenance costs, including repair costs
- Insurance costs
- Training costs
- Warehousing costs
- Registration and certification costs
- Cost of consumables
- Cost of personnel required to ensure the availability and deployability of rescEU capacities.

To be considered as eligible, costs declared by the applicant must comply with Article II.19 of the General Conditions of the Grant Agreement, as well as with further Special Conditions of the Grant Agreement, where applicable.

Costs incurred before the signature of the Grant Agreement will not be considered as eligible unless the applicant can demonstrate the need for starting the action prior the signature of the grant agreement.

The Union financial support corresponds to 100% of the total estimated costs, provided that the declared costs comply with the eligibility requirements of Decision 1313/2013 and the grant agreement. Only eligible costs will be taken into account to calculate the Union financial contribution.

The Commission may, during the implementation of the action or afterwards, carry out technical and financial checks and audits to determine that the beneficiary is

[6] See Article 136 of Regulation 2018/1046: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018R1046

[7] Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924–947.

[8] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019D0420

implementing the action properly and is complying with the obligations under the Agreement.

In line with Article 10 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU, the applicant shall ensure the registration of the capacity developed under the grant agreement in CECIS and launch the certification process as soon as the capacity is available[9]. The applicant shall also take care of all necessary national registration and certification procedures allowing the deployment of the capacity.

4. Grant award and management procedure

The award criteria facilitate the evaluation of applications in relation to the set objectives and priorities of rescEU.

Applications fulfilling the above-mentioned eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria, and meeting the quality requirements laid down in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570 will be assessed on the basis of the following award criteria:

Criterion	Elements taken into account	Maximum score	Minimum threshold
Time for development	- Priority will be given to a shorter timeline for the establishment of the stockpile	**10**	**7**
Efficient and sustainable management of the stock	- Policies, strategies, and procedures to face low offer of medical countermeasures and personal protective equipment, and to ensure the security of supplies. - Management of stocked medical countermeasures and personal protective equipment throughout the duration of the action and strategies to manage aspects such as perishability (e.g. a first in, first out system; use of perishable products by hospitals or other health care institutions, etc).	**45**	**32**
Effective deployability	- Accessibility of the stockpile - Mitigating measures foreseen in case of disrupted international transport for the deployment.	**45**	**32**

A grading system with a maximum of hundred (100) points is used according to the point system described above. The minimum score required for the proposal to be selected is 70.

The Commission will take into account the geographical balance of the capacities to be developed under rescEU.

[9] Commission Implementing Decision of 16 October 2014 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism and repealing Commission Decisions 2004/277/EC, Euratom and 2007/606/EC, Euratom (notified under document C(2014) 7489)

If the total requested amount of all the pre-selected technically sufficient projects exceeds the total indicative budget of EUR 170 million available for this action[10], the proposals will be ranked according to the total points given to them. The Evaluation Committee will propose that the Authorising Officer selects those projects with higher ranking within the limits of the available budget.

Upon completion of the above-mentioned procedure, the Authorising Officer will take the decision on the project proposals to be co-financed, including the respective maximum financial amount and the rate of co-financing granted.

Please note that the Commission reserves the right to award a grant amounting to less than the amount requested by the applicant. However, grants will not be awarded for more than the amount requested in the proposal. Only eligible costs under Annex Ia of Decision 1313/2013/EU will be taken into account to determine the maximum amount of the grant.

Once the responsible authorising officer has taken his/her decision to award a grant, the applicant will receive a notification letter with the grant agreement to be signed.

The Commission may agree on one or several pre-financing payments based on the type of activities. Where necessary, the pre-financing payments may follow the schedule of payments incurred by the beneficiary to develop the capacity. The aim of the pre-financing is to provide the beneficiary with a flow of cash. The pre-financing remains the property of the Union until it is cleared against interim payments or payment of the balance.

Reporting requirements will be adapted to each capacity, taking into account the duration and specificities of the action and the amount of the grant.

If relevant, in addition to these reporting requirements, the applicant must inform the Commission by 31 December each year about the cumulative expenditure incurred from the starting date. This information is required for the Commission's accounting purposes and may not be used for determining the final amount of the grant.

[10] As stipulated in the amended Annual Work Programme

PROGRAMME CONCERNED
rescEU
REFERENCE NUMBER
SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATION
Title:
Identity of the applicant:
Summary of the action:
Duration (in months):
Start date:
Total estimated costs:
Requested EU contribution (in €):

Please make sure that your application:

- is submitted on the correct form, completed in full and dated;
- is signed by the person authorised to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant;
- presents a budget in conformity with the funding rules;

A scanned copy of the signed evaluation form must be submitted to 5.1.2e 5.1.2e @ec.europa.eu by 25 September 17:00 CET.

The evaluation committee or, where appropriate, the authorising officer responsible may ask an applicant to provide additional information or to clarify the supporting documents submitted in connection with the application, provided that such information or clarification does not substantially change the proposal.

By submitting an application, the applicant accepts that in case of award certain data like the name, locality and amount (amongst others) will be published.

I. INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS

1 REFERENCES OF THE APPLICANTS

1.1 IDENTITY OF THE APPLICANT
Official name in full:
Acronym: (if applicable)
Official legal form: (Not applicable if the applicant is a natural person)
Independent Legal personality[11]: (Reply by "YES" or "NO").
Place of establishment or registration: (Address and country)
Entity registration number (only applicable to private bodies): Reference to the act, law, decree or decision that established the organisation as a public body (only applicable to public bodies):
VAT number (if applicable):

[11] The following entities may exceptionally also be regarded as a legal entity, without having an independent legal personality: Ministries or other executive services which are part of the public administration of a (central or federated) State and directly linked to the government, in accordance with the officially published organisation of the State.

The legal details are to be attached to the application using the Legal Entity Form available at: http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm[12]

1.2 CONTACT DETAILS	
Street address:	
Postcode:	
City:	
Region (if applicable):	
Country:	
Telephone:	Mobile:
Fax:	
E-mail address:	
Website:	

Any change in the addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers or e-mail, must be notified in writing to the Authorising Officer. The Authorising officer will not be held responsible in the event that it cannot contact an applicant.

1.3 CONTACT PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPOSAL	
Family name:	First Name:

[12] **ATTENTION**: *Applicant already registered as a Legal Entity in the Commission register does not need to submit the supporting document to the LEF forms. This is typically the case when the applicant is benefitting or has directly benefited from EU funding (as a beneficiary of grant agreements or decisions, or as a contractor for service/study or other market contracts) with a final payment after 2009. In this case, please provide clear grant agreement / contract reference(s) for the recent EU funding and the Commission service(s) responsible.*

Position/Function:	
Telephone:	Mobile:
Fax:	
E-mail address:	

1.4 LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE (PERSON AUTHORISED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT)	
Family name:	First Name:
Position/Function/Mandate:	
Telephone:	Mobile:
Fax:	
E-mail address:	

2 REFERENCES OF THE AFFILIATED ENTITY (if applicable)
2.1 IDENTITY OF THE AFFILIATED ENTITY (This box shall be filled in by all affiliated entities, including the case where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form ONE entity, to be treated as the sole beneficiary.)
Official name in full:
Acronym: (if applicable)
Official legal form: (Not applicable if the applicant is a natural person)
Independent Legal personality[13]: (Reply by "YES" or "NO").
Place of establishment or registration: (Address and country)

[13] [illegible] independent legal personality: Ministries or other executive services which are part of the public administration of a (central or federated) State and directly linked to the government, in accordance with the officially published organisation of the State.

Entity registration number: (Not applicable if the applicant is a public-sector body.)
VAT number (if applicable)
Legal or capital link with the applicant, if applicable: The applicant should provide a short description of the legal or capital link with the applicant and provide the statutory documents and/or consolidated accounts.

The legal details are to be attached to the application using the Legal Entity Form available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm

3 BANK DETAILS

The bank details are attached as an annex to the Bank Account Form (BAF). The form is available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm

4 PROFILE OF THE APPLICANT/AFFILIATED ENTITY

4.1 Applicant

PROFILE OF THE APPLICANT — GENERAL AIMS AND ACTIVITIES
The applicant should provide a short description of the organisation, its role in the management of medical emergencies like pandemics.

4.2 Affiliated Entity (Repeat this part as often as is required to include all affiliated entities)

PROFILE OF THE AFFILIATED ENTITY No 1 — GENERAL AIMS AND ACTIVITIES
The affiliated entity should provide a short description of the organisation, its role in the management of medical emergencies like pandemics.

II. OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL CAPACITY

1 OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

1.1 Applicant

OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED ACTION OF THE APPLICANT
Please confirm that the applicant can implement the action (e.g. please provide information on resources in terms of skilled personnel, authorisations, materials, equipment, etc., to implement the action covered by the grant). The authorising officer decided to waive the obligation to verify the operational capacity of public bodies, according to article 198.6 of the Financial Regulation.

1.2 Affiliated Entity No1 *if applicable* (Repeat this part as often as is required to include all affiliated entities)

OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED ACTION OF THE AFFILIATED ENTITY No 1

2 FINANCIAL CAPACITY

As stated under Article 198.5 of the Financial Regulation, the verification of the financial capacity shall not apply **to public bodies**, including Member States Organisations.

III. INFORMATION ON THE ACTION FOR WHICH THE GRANT IS REQUESTED

1 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
Title: rescEU-
Summary of the project: In max. 20 lines, please describe and summarise the action you intend to develop.
Objectives and results Please describe the general and specific objectives of the action and the results expected, including the EU added-value. Max. 20 lines
Development of the capacity Please describe how you intend to develop the entire capacity: buying, renting or leasing of equipment or services. Please provide us with a detail for each part necessary to develop the capacity (intensive care medical equipment, personal protective equipment, vaccines and therapeutics). Please note that if you intend to develop some parts of the capacity through service contracts, the Commission may ask for all the details linked to the contract that you will sign.

Timeline for development of the capacity

Please indicate **for each type of item** composing the capacity the estimate date by when it will be available for deployment.

Description of the capacity to be developed

The applicant should describe the specifications of the capacity based on the quality requirements set in the Annex to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570, as amended by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414. Quality standards beyond the minimum requirements indicated in the Implementing Decision should be mentioned by the applicant.

In particular, PPE and medical devices need to comply with the Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on individual protective equipment or the Council Directive 93/42/EEC or Regulation (EU) 2017/45 on medical devices, bear relevant CE- markings, and follow the WHO and ECDC minimum standards and guidelines outlined below:

WHO_COVID-19 v4 Disease Commodity | WHO-2019-nCoV-Cli Pnical-Ventilator_Specs | ECDC novel-coronavirus-pe

The following standards are specific to PPE against Ebola:

Ebola Commodity package.pdf

Regarding Ebola countermeasures, please find below a list of items agreed during the 8th Task Team meeting that could be considered for stockpiling under rescEU. Please note that **only the first vaccine** (rVSVΔG-ZEBOV-GP (Ervebo)) may be included under the application for a grant[14]:

Annex 1_8th TT meeting.pdf

If additional items appear to be relevant for rescEU following the Task Team meeting to be held in September 2020, the Commission will send information on the applicable minimum requirements to all Member and Participating States.

[14] The Ad26.ZEBOV/ MVA-BN-Filo vaccines identified during the 8th Task Team meeting have recently received EU market authorisation. Since these vaccines require at least two immunisations, they are **not suitable under rescEU**, which is intended for emergency response.

Please find below a non-exhaustive list of information needed for the Commission to evaluate the proposal. Should you consider that additional information might be useful do not hesitate to provide it.

1. Number of items
2. Name of the product
3. Category
4. Reusable / disposable (if relevant)
5. Size, if applicable
6. Confirmation that the products meet the detailed technical specifications, as described in the documents attached above and that they are CE-marked. The applicable EU legislation is Regulation (EU) 2016/425 or Council Directive 93/42/EEC or Regulation (EU) 2017/745.
7. CE- marking: please attach the EU Declaration of Conformity (for all capacities) with the indication of the Notified Body (for PPE Cat. III and Medical Devices Class II and III) and Certificate issued by Notified Body (for Medical Devices Class II and III)- these documents must be provided when the items are registered in CECIS at the latest
8. Standards followed, regulatory status
9. Accessories and spare parts included
10. Warranty
11. Shelf life, expiry date
12. Storage requirements (size, wage, special temperature/humidity requirements)
13. Physical/virtual stockpile
14. If available: brand/name of the items

- Insurance (warehousing loss and damage)

Management of the stockpile

- Maintenance of the stocks

Please describe the maintenance modalities of the stockpile throughout the duration of the action , and in particular:

- Policies, strategies, and procedures to face low offer of medical countermeasures and personal protective equipment, and to ensure the availability of supplies.

- Measures to manage the stocks and avoid expiration of the products (e.g. a first in, first out system; use of perishable products by hospitals or other health care institutions, potential integration into a national stockpile, etc.).

- Constraints and limitations

Please explain if any limitations and/or constraints (e.g. technical, operational, human resources, geographical) are identified with regard to the management of the stocks

Deployability of the capacity

- Please indicate the location of the warehouses and provide information on the accessibility.

- Please describe how you will ensure that the assets will be deployed across Member States in a timely manner and describe the available modes of transportation in close proximity to the warehouses.

- Constraints and limitations

Please explain if any limitations and/or constraints (e.g. technical, operational, human resources, geographical) are identified for international deployments and associated mitigating measures.

Organisational structure

Present briefly the partnership and the project team (e.g. which institutions, ministries, agencies…) will be involved in the management of the action.

Activities Please list all the activities needed to implement the action (e.g. project coordination, procurement procedure, training…). The activities must be detailed enough to allow the Commission to evaluate properly technically and financially the application. All the deliverables linked to each activities should be mentioned. If any, please also indicate the meetings/workshops that will be foreseen in the context of the action.
Timeframe Please provide a clear timeline of all activities listed in the previous section (e.g. GANTT chart)
Risks and mitigation measures How the applicant/coordinator will monitor the action and ensure timely and proper implementation. Describe the risks that could be encountered during the implementation of the action and the mitigating measures.
Sustainability In this section, please explain how you will integrate the concept of "European Green Deal" in the development of the capacity. This could include inter alia measures such as choosing materials with a lower carbon footprint, new technologies to recycle consumables…
Subcontracting Which part of the action will be subcontracted, including the relevant information on procedure, contractor and amount.

Visibility

Describe the activities that will be implemented as dissemination/visibility activities to ensure a correct coverage of EU funding (newsletters, dedicated website, press conference…)

Please note that the EU emblem will have to be visible on the capacity when deployed under rescEU initiative.

LEGAL NOTICE

Applicants are informed that, under the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union no grants may be awarded retrospectively for actions already completed. In those exceptional cases accepted by the Commission where applicants demonstrate the need to start the action or work programme before the agreement is signed or the decision notified, expenditure eligible for financing may not have been incurred before the grant application was lodged.

3 BUDGET

Estimated Budget — Annex 1

Applications must include a detailed estimated budget in balance, in which all costs are given in euros. Applicants from countries outside the euro zone may use [the conversion rates published in the Official Journal of the European Union, series C, during the month in which they are submitting the application] [the monthly rate published on the Commission's website at www.ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro/].

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

2.2 **REQUESTED SUPPORT**
Have any of the applicants or any of the affiliated entities requested, applied or are awaiting confirmation relating to external funding for the action (e.g structural funds)? ☐ NO ☐ YES — Continue to the [table in the Annexes (Budget)] [following table]

DETAILS OF FUNDS REQUESTED — The applicant should indicate the details of the requested funds following the model below (add rows if necessary)	
Organisation/Entity Concerned 1	
Name of the organisation	
Official address	
Requested amount	
Year	

Annexes: - Budget

- Declaration of honour by the applicant

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

All sections of the application form have been filled in, where appropriate, in accordance with any document provided as guidance related to the programme concerned.	*
The budget annex has been duly filled in and is attached.	*
Legal details have been included in the Legal Entity Form annexed.	*
Bank details have been included in the Bank Account Form.	*
The declaration(s) of honour has (have) been signed and attached.	*
With regard to equipment costs, documented evidence of the market price according to point 4 (Grant award and management procedure) of the General Information section above. With regard to other categories of costs, documents enabling the Commission to calculate the total estimated costs.	*
(Only applicable for entities without legal personality) Copy of an official document attesting that the representatives of the entity have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on its behalf. Copy of an official document attesting that the entity has the same operational and financial capacity as that of a legal entity: • i.e. a document showing patrimony/asset/capital that is separated and different from those of the members/owners of the entity, and	*

• a copy of the rules providing that creditors can rely on this patrimony/asset/capital and —in case of liquidation/insolvency —are reimbursed before the patrimony/asset/capital is divided between the owners/members.	