

TOPIC 2:

RESOURCES AND AVAILABILITY

Support for project funding through grants can be obtained through contests run by foreign donors, but also through the allocation of designated funds from public administration at the local, cantonal and national levels.

Project funding in terms of grants is often linked to the country's status in relation to the EU. Availability of resources is different in EU member states in comparison with those which are not members of the EU. The European Union has a common policy in the field of agriculture. Therefore, one should expect changes and adjustments that will also condition the thematic focus of open calls for organisations from the agricultural sector. However, one should not ignore other donors present in the country, from national donors (State ministries and agencies), to international agencies (UN) and foundations.

Different donors may have different goals and priorities, but one should bear in mind that they all seek to support those projects that, from their standpoint, can have a measurable impact and create a meaningful change in the field of agriculture.

The choice of a funding source depends on the needs identified by the legal entity/natural person who wishes to enter the competition for the allocation of grants. Ordinarily, donors do not often change the defined priorities because they are guided by longstanding strategic plans and set indicators that they wish to achieve. It should be remembered that donors have defined their goals motivated by their positioning in the country or at the global level, striving towards the implementation of local and national strategies, as well as the internationally agreed 17 Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs)¹, at least 5 of which directly and profoundly concern the sector of agriculture. Donors are often interested in making use of the results generated within the projects they support in order to have the desired information and data that they can further use in programming new phases of support, but also in achieving impact and creating advocacy positions.

Table 1: Some Mapped Funding Sources through Grants Relevant to the Field of Agriculture available internationally

Source of grant support	Primary purpose	Potential users	Find out more!
Erasmus + Programme	Cooperation, networking, exchange, capacity building and innovation in education and training	Universities, NGOs, companies, public sector	https://www.you-net.eu/erasmus-programme-guide.html https://erasmusbih.com/en/
Horizon Europe – Cluster # 6	Research and innovation in the field of food and agriculture	Universities, research centres, NGOs, companies, public sector	https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/cluster-6-food-bioeconomy-natural-resources-agriculture-and-environment_en

1

https://www.un.org/en/footballforthegoals?gclid=CjwKCAjwzJmlBhBBEiwAEJyLu1pZsW0clErC6dZOE0_WyNK0GNPns7wZco2ASLJfoF5pQddcXoUwohoCto4QAvD_BwE

It is also recommended to visit specific portals where calls for grants are announced, such as EUROPEAID (<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/>), as well as to subscribe to portals that regularly announce new calls and publish results of previously funded projects, or send notifications when calls are announced (EUCalls, EPALE), which can also be a significant source of information about potential partners.

Small-scale and newly founded organisations, especially those located in rural areas, can constitute a significant target group of many donors who condition large organisations, i.e. national and regional networks of thematically related organisations, to use part of the awarded project funds to support small-scale organisations in the field of similar thematic activity through the process of re-granting, i.e. by opening calls for mini-grants. In this regard, organisations and agri-entrepreneurs should seek membership in thematic networks and monitor their work.