

Guidelines for Funding for Development Cooperation

Article 1

General

- (1) As a holder of private rights, the Tyrolean Regional Authority has been active in the field of development cooperation for many years and has established separate budget appropriations for that purpose. The budget appropriations are managed in accordance with these guidelines and the amount of the funds provided for in the regional budget.
- (2) There is no legal entitlement to receipt of funding.

Article 2

Objectives

- (1) The objective of development cooperation at the Tyrolean Regional Authority is to improve the economic, social and cultural situation of particularly disadvantaged people. The primary activity is the fight against absolute poverty.
- (2) With its development cooperation activities, the Tyrolean Regional Authority works to enable people living in the target areas as defined in Art. 3 to meet their basic needs, to receive income, an education and medical care, to preserve their cultural identity, and to participate in social life. The focus is always on the principle of helping people to help themselves.
- (3) In Tyrolean settlements abroad, the objective of development cooperation is not just the fight against absolute poverty but also support for measures that are meaningful and necessary for positive development and cannot be financed out of the communities' own resources.

Article 3

Target areas

Funding within the terms of these guidelines is available for projects and aid work in developing countries included on the DAC list issued by the OECD, countries of South and Southeast Europe that are highly disadvantaged in economic and social terms, and countries with expatriate Tyrolean settlements.

Article 4

Eligibility for funding

- (1) Projects and measures serving achievement of the objectives listed in Art. 2 are eligible for funding.
- (2) Funding is provided primarily for projects and measures that constitute an investment in facilities in the fields of education, health, municipal services, etc. That includes items of infrastructure designed to provide citizens with local produce, water, electricity, etc.
- (3) Investments in commercial activities can also be funded where they help to improve the situation of the poorest sectors of the population by creating opportunities for employment and income. Such investments are particularly relevant when they relate to activities in accordance with the principles of Fair Trade.
- (4) Funding can also be provided in the form of grants for education or training at a Tyrolean school or training facility.

Article 5

Type and extent of support

Projects in the target regions can only receive financial support if they satisfy the principle of partnership pursuant to Art. 6. Aid is provided in the form of financial support for the project promoter, but the promoter and/or beneficiaries must also make a contribution. In the case of co-financing with a development aid organisation as the project promoter, the latter must provide at least 30% of the amount of the investment itself. In the case of local project partners, a lower percentage may be acceptable but they must always make a contribution of their own (labour, services).

Article 6

Principle of partnership

In order to receive public funding from the Tyrolean Regional Authority, the development cooperation project must be based on collaboration between a Tyrolean contact group (person) or organisation and a group that is active in one of the target areas. These groups or organisations must themselves make a contribution to the implementation of the project. Funding can also be made available to projects run by development aid organisations that have a special relationship to the Tyrol as well as Tyrolean settlements abroad.

Article 7

General principles and criteria

- (1) Priority for funding will be given to projects
 - a) with a high degree of target group involvement from the planning stage to implementation;
 - b) which encourage and support initiative and self-organisation;
 - c) which benefit as many people as possible;
 - d) which can be continued by local facilities and communities acting under their own responsibility;
 - e) which will become self-supporting within a foreseeable period of time;
 - f) which employ means and methods that are appropriate to local conditions and take account of the basic social, economic and ecological situation;
 - g) which lead to verifiable results;
 - h) which take account of the differences in gender relationships in the countries of the southern hemisphere.
- (2) No funding will be provided for projects
 - a) which promote or strengthen the primacy and privileges of any groups or individuals, or consolidate injustice or inequality;
 - b) which fail to satisfy the principle of partnership;
 - c) which are designed to service loans or debts relating to projects already begun or implemented;
 - d) for which total funding is not guaranteed;
 - e) whose promoters have failed to deliver a financial report for previously funded projects.
- (3) Travel expenses and administration costs can only be funded insofar as they are essential for the orderly implementation of the project.

Article 8

Verification and repayment

- (1) Applicants for grants have a duty to give the organs or agents of the Tyrolean Regional Government access to the relevant data and documents as required to verify the correctness of the application and to provide all necessary information.
- (2) On completion of the project, the promoter must present a project report and, where possible, provide photographs of the measures taken as proof of the appropriate use of the funds provided. Final accounts must be submitted on a cash accounting basis and accompanied by the relevant vouchers. Where it is not possible or feasible to present vouchers, a record of project income and expenditures must be drawn up and appended to the report. In the case of the wrongful receipt of funds on the basis of false statements or actions that are contrary to the purpose of the funding, the amount of the grant made must be repaid in full in the currency of the original transfer.

Article 9

Final provisions

- (1) Applicants must give their explicit consent when signing the grant application that all personal data required to process the application and funding may be handled with the help of IT systems and forwarded to all offices involved in administering and monitoring the funding.
- (2) The competent court in Innsbruck shall have exclusive jurisdiction in the case of any dispute arising out of a legal relationship deriving from a grant in aid.

According to the Tyrolean transparency of subsidies law (Tiroler Fördertransparenzgesetz) the Tyrolean Regional Government is required to inform the State Parliament in case the regional funding amounts to or over EUR 2.000. The name of the natural or legal person, the postal code, the type and amount of funding and the investment total (if this is a criterion for the amount of funding) has to be disclosed to the State Parliament as well as published on the website of the Land Tyrol every year.