

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)

ECHO.A - Emergency Management and rescEU

The Acting DirectorBrussels,
ECHO.A2/IS/ar

ADDRESSEES: Directors-General for civil protection of the Member and Participating States
to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism
Members of the Civil Protection Committee

Subject: Invitation to apply for a grant for “rescEU stockpiling of medical countermeasures and/or personal protective equipment, aimed at combatting serious cross-border threats to health”

Dear Directors-General, Dear Members of the Civil Protection Committee,

The European Commission and Member States decided to include medical stockpiling capacities under ‘rescEU’, as a preparedness and response measure. This includes personal protective and medical equipment, as well as medical countermeasures (vaccines and therapeutics).

In accordance with Decision No 1313/2013/EU¹ and the Annual Work Programme for the implementation of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2020², the objective of the grant is to develop a stockpile of medical countermeasures and/or personal protective equipment serving as a last resort European reserve for Member and Participating States.

You are hereby kindly asked to facilitate the transmission of this letter with its annexes explaining the grant procedure to the relevant Ministry/Authority in charge of civil protection.

The present invitation and its annexes are sent out during the summer period for your convenience. However, please be aware that a **Task Team meeting** with all Member and Participating States will take place at the beginning of September³ 2020, with the aim to further specify the most relevant medical items to be included in the rescEU stockpile⁴.

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 Commission Implementing Decision of 19 November 2019 on the financing of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism and the adoption of the work programme for 2020

³ Indicative date of the meeting: 2 September 2020 via videoconference.

⁴ Due to constant developments in terms of testing kits, therapeutics and vaccines, the Commission prefers to establish a potential list of relevant items as close as possible to the closing date of this application phase.

Applications must be submitted by means of the enclosed application form (Annex I). The operational contract (Annex Ia) and the draft budget table (Annex II) should be enclosed as a part of this application. The awarded grant will take the form of the draft grant agreement enclosed in Annex III.

The applicable legislation, Implementing Decision (EU) No 2020/414⁵, lays down the mandatory quality requirements for medical countermeasures and personal protective equipment funded under rescEU. Further details on applicable standards can be found directly in the application form (Annex I).

The rules determining the grant award procedures are set out in the Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1).

The deadline for submitting the grant application in electronic form to the below email address is **25 September 2020 at 17:00 CET**.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the responsible Commission service at: (10)(2e) [@ec.europa.eu](mailto:(10)(2e)@ec.europa.eu)

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)

p.o. (10)(2e)

(10)(2e)

Enclosures: Annex I – Application Form
 Annex Ia – Operational Contract
 Annex II – Draft Budget Table
 Annex III - Draft Grant Agreement

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414 of 19 March 2020 amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570 as regards medical stockpiling rescEU capacities