



Annex. 3 to Decision IES-DEC nr. 97 / 13.09.2023

Launch announcement

of the non-reimbursable funding programme *Power Station++ / Mobility Programme for cultural professionals*

1. Context

Power Station++ is the non-reimbursable funding programme for training internships and travel grants for professionals working in the cultural sector.

Power Station++ expands and strengthens the national cultural programme "Timișoara - European Capital of Culture in 2023", being carried out by the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timișoara, from amounts allocated from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Culture.

Travel grants and training internships (rejoined in the context of this funding programme as *mobilities* for cultural professionals) play an important role in increasing international collaborations and profiling Timișoara as an important pole of contemporary art and culture in Europe.

In the long term, the mobility programme for the cultural field aims to become a constant form of encouraging the participation and international movement of cultural professionals, continuous learning and professional development, as well as collaboration and strengthening of partnerships.

Power Station++ is part of Power Station, the component of the national cultural programme "Timișoara - European Capital of Culture in 2023" dedicated to increasing the capacity of the cultural sector, implemented by the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timișoara.



2. Purpose and objectives of the funding programme

2.1. Purpose

Power Station++ supports the participation and national and international circulation of professionals in the cultural field, continuous learning, collaboration and strengthening of partnerships.

2.2. Objective

General objectives:

- (1) Supporting the national and international mobility of professionals active in the cultural field, particularly in relation to current or future cities holding the title of European Capital of Culture;
- (2) Increasing the visibility of the local cultural scene on the national and international level;
- (3) Contribution to the objectives of the Local Strategy of the Municipality of Timișoara 2014-2024 (*Timișoara Connected*) and the Cultural Programme Timișoara 2023 (Power Station component), on the basis of which Timișoara was awarded the title of European Capital of Culture.

Specific objective Internships:

Developing the skills of people working in the cultural field through participation in national and international internships.

Specific objectives Travel grants:

- (1) *Outbound Travel*: Increasing the participation of cultural professionals from Timișoara in events and in the activity of cultural organisations in Romania and abroad.
- (2) *Inbound Travel*: A better understanding of Timișoara's local scene by Romanian and international professionals.



3. Who can apply?

The funding programme is addressed to natural persons applicants, at least 18 years of age, or authorized natural persons, Romanian or foreign, active in the cultural field.

The programme funds internships that:

- last at least 10 calendar days – period away, at a host organization, which gives its consent to receive the applicant as an internship;
- have one/more training objectives assumed through the funding application;
- bring benefits not only to the trainee, but also to the local context and/or the organization with which he collaborates/works constantly.

The programme funds **travel grants** that:

- consist of participating in an event/project/organization, with a well-defined purpose, for which the applicant can prove that he received the organizer's consent;
- bring benefits to the participant in terms of visibility, promotion of practices, works, documentation and exploration of new partnerships or collaborations.

Professionals from the cultural sector are encouraged to participate - artists, cultural managers, producers, curators, art critics, financial managers, cultural mediators, researchers, cultural communication professionals, cultural policy professionals, other occupations in the area of technical or administrative support for the cultural scene, regardless of their status of employees, freelancers, etc.

Training internships and international travel grants are encouraged, especially in relation to cultural organizations or professionals active in current or future European Capitals of Culture cities: 2023: Veszprém-Balaton (Hungary) and Elefsina (Greece)); 2024: Bad Ischl (Austria), Tartu (Estonia) and Bodø (Norway); 2025: Chemnitz (Germany) and Nova Gorica (Slovenia); 2026: Oulu (Finland) and Trenčín (Slovakia); 2027: Liepāja (Latvia) and Évora (Portugal).

Examples of formats addressed by the funding programme: exchange of experience, artistic residency, research/study visit, involvement in a specific project/ programme of an artistic organization/group, involvement in the realization of a large-scale event (festival, network meeting, international exhibition, etc.), participation in a conference / forum / professional networking event or with the aim of exploring partnerships for new cultural projects, mentoring/coaching, training programme, job shadowing, etc.



4. Budget and characteristics

4.1. Training internships:

- **Total budget:** 500,000 RON (~ 101,500 EURO / ~ 111,500 USD)
- **Budget divided according to thematic directions**
 - ***Inbound Internships*** (hosted by organizations from Timisoara, for national/international professionals): 200,000 RON
 - ***Outbound Internships*** (hosted by national/international organizations outside Timisoara, for professionals from Timisoara): 300,000 RON
- **Ceilings** (maximum amounts of the requested non-reimbursable funding)
 - *Inbound Internships*: **max. 15,000 RON**
 - *Outbound Internships*: **max. 20,000 RON**
- **Instalments of non-reimbursable funding**
 - instalment 1: max. **85%** (after signing the funding agreement)
 - instalment 2: min. **15%** (after the submission of the activity report and its verification)

4.2. Travel grants:

- **Total budget:** 500,000 RON (~ 101,500 EURO / ~ 111,500 USD)
- **Budget divided according to thematic directions**
 - ***Inbound Travel*** (travel grants to Timisoara, for national/international professionals): 200,000 RON
 - ***Outbound Travel*** (national/international travel grants outside Timisoara, for professionals from Timisoara): 300,000 RON
- **Ceilings** (maximum amounts of the requested non-reimbursable funding)
 - *Inbound Travel*: **max. 10,000 RON**
 - *Outbound Travel*: **max. 15,000 RON**



- **Installments of non-reimbursable funding**
 - installment 1: max. **85%** (after signing the funding agreement)
 - installment 2: min. **15%** (after the submission of the activity report and its verification)

The beneficiary will identify and attract **complementary sources of funding of at least 1% (percentage of the total budget**, i.e. the budget including the requested grant and complementary sources of funding).

The complementary source of funding cannot come from another application/project funded by the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timișoara.

An applicant may submit only **one application** to this funding programme.

5. Calendar

| Period | Activity |
|---------------------|--|
| 7 September 2023 | Launch of the funding programme |
| 25 September 2023 | Start registration |
| > 25 September 2023 | <p>Continuous process of registration, evaluation and contracting – until the allocated budgets are exhausted.</p> <p>The stages that an application will go through for funding are as follows:</p> <p>Stage 1 Registration in the mobility programme – submission of the funding application, together with the requested documents according to the <i>Applicant's Guide</i> (Chapter 8).</p> <p>Stage 2 Administrative compliance and eligibility check. Publishing the result of the verification. Submission and resolution of any appeals.</p> |



Stage 3

Evaluation of applications. Publication of the evaluation result.

Stage 4

Signing the funding agreement. Payment of the first installment, based on the payment request or, as the case may be, the invoice issued by the beneficiary.

Notice!

The registration deadline (considering that the allocated budget is not used up by then) is 15 April 2024.

The maximum period from registration until the publication of the evaluation result is 14 calendar days.

Within a maximum of 7 calendar days from the publication of the evaluation result, the funding agreement is signed. The expenses for which funding is requested can only be carried out after the date of signing the agreement, during its execution.

After completing the mobility, within no more than 14 calendar days, the beneficiaries of the grant will submit an activity report, accompanied by supporting documents for the expenses incurred.

20 May 2024

Deadline for submitting the activity report, the supporting documents regarding the expenses incurred and the press file.

7. Evaluation

7.1. Evaluation process

The evaluation and selection of applications is carried out by selection committees made up of:

- a) representatives of the funding authority with experience and/or responsibilities regarding the local cultural sector;
- b) specialists with an experience of at least 3 years or, as the case may be, at least 2 years in the management and/or evaluation of cultural projects, in the fields for which the selection session is organized.



The work of the evaluators is to evaluate the applications. The selection is made **based on the points obtained**, calculated by the arithmetic mean of the points awarded by each member of the commission, according to the evaluation criteria established in this announcement.

Proposals with a **total score of minimum 70 points**, out of a maximum score of 100 points, will be selected for non-reimbursable funding.

Applicants have the right to file **appeals** strictly on the manner of compliance with the procedure regarding the organization and conduct of the stage of verification of administrative compliance and eligibility.

Appeals will be sent electronically, to the e-mail address **proiecte@centruldeproiecte.ro**.

The evaluation and selection process is carried out online, on the page **centruldeproiecte.ro/finantari/power-station-mobilitati**.

For more information on evaluation, please refer to Chapter 9. *Evaluation and selection process* in the Applicant's Guide (Annex 1 to Decision IES-DEC No. 97 / 13.09.2023).

| 7.2. Evaluation criteria | Maximum score |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| I. Application quality | 60 |

Alignment with the cultural strategy

Need or opportunity of the application in relation to the Timisoara cultural scene.

Attention! In order to be selected, the application must score **at least 10 points** for this criterion.

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The cooperation between established cultural institutions and emerging groups or professionals in the cultural field, at local and international level, is evaluated by:

- the applicant's ability to explore and develop contacts and professional skills, within the internship offered by the host organization or the trip;
- the capacity of the activities proposed in the mobility plan to facilitate a better knowledge of the specific cultural contexts, thus connected; 20
- the ability of the applicant's practice to contribute in making connections between the local and national or international scenes, between organisations, artists and other cultural professionals.

Attention! In order to be selected, the application must score at **least 10 points** for this criterion.

The European dimension

Exactly 5 points will be awarded if the mobility connects Timisoara to national/international cities/regions other than current or future European Capitals of Culture.

Exactly 15 points will be awarded if the mobility connects cultural professionals and organisations active in current or future European Capital of Culture cities: Timișoara 2023 (Romania), Veszprém 2023 (Hungary), Elefsina 2023 (Greece), Bad Ischl 2024 (Austria), Tartu 2024 (Estonia), Bodø 2024 (Norway), Chemnitz 2025 (Germany), Nova Gorica 2025 (Slovenia), Oulu 2026 (Finland), Trenčín 2026 (Slovakia); Liepāja 2027 (Latvia) and Évora 2027 (Portugal). 10

Attention! In order to be selected, the application must score at **least 5 points** for this criterion.

The cultural value of the mobility

The applicant proposes a mobility plan that will further contribute to the development of Timisoara's cultural scene. 10

II. Experience

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The applicant proves an **appropriate and consistent professional experience** in the cultural field, by:

- experience acquired in educational contexts, applied practice or individual study; 20
- professional history confirmed by presenting the résumé/portfolio and, optionally, other informative supporting materials.



III. Compliance

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Coherence, clarity and eloquence – wording the application in a way that allows its convincing correlation with the features of the funding programme:

- the application meets the purpose and objectives of the *Power Station++ / Mobility for cultural professionals* programme;
- the applicant proves the ability to synthesize information;
- the mobility plan is coherently formulated and converges towards achieving the proposed objective;
- compatibility between the mobility objectives assumed in the proposed plan, on the one hand, respectively the profile of the applicant, the host organization or the context in which the movement takes place, as the case may be.

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Total

100

All information and documents related to the funding programme are publicly communicated on the website centruldeproiecte.ro/finantari/power-station-mobilitati.

The official communication with the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timișoara regarding the development of the funding programme is carried out through the e-mail address proiecte@centruldeproiecte.ro.