Pre-announcement
CEI Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP) Calls for Proposals 2015

The Central European Initiative is pleased to announce that the next Calls for Proposals within the CEI Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP) will be launched this spring as follows:

- **KEP AUSTRIA**: planned to be launched the last week of March, with a closing date in early June. The indicative budget for this call is €170,000.
- **KEP ITALY**: planned to be launched the last week of April, with a closing date in early July. The indicative budget for this call is €280,000.

1. **Programme overview:**

The CEI Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP) is a development instrument aimed to support transfer of know-how from organisations in the EU to peers in the non-EU countries within the CEI region. By co-financing capacity building and technical assistance projects, the KEP offers co-financing grants to institutions helping non-EU members to advance on their path towards EU standards and policies.

2. **Main Call requirements:**

**Size of potential co-financing grants**: any grant awarded shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total cost of a given project. The maximum grant amount allocated to a single project cannot exceed €40,000 for KEP ITALY and €50,000 for KEP AUSTRIA.

**What kind of projects are expected?**
The overall objective of the KEP is to contribute to the development of the CEI region, bolstering social cohesion and economic dynamism while strengthening cooperation between the CEI Member States. Therefore, a Project Proposal has to be in line with the **CEI Plan of Action**. The KEP is focused on areas of intervention where CEI-EU countries demonstrate strong-rooted experience, and where beneficiary states exhibit the strongest need for assistance. Project Proposals are required to address at least one of the KEP priority areas, namely: **European Integration, Capacity Building and Market Economy, Infrastructure Planning and Development, Agriculture, Energy, and Environment.**

**Who can apply?**
The applicant:
- a) shall be public/private sector bodies, IOs and NGOs operating in the public interest registered in CEI Member States, which are also members of the European Union; b) can apply to both calls also with the same project proposal; c) can submit two distinct project proposals within the same Call, provided beneficiaries are different.

**NOTE:** For the KEP AUSTRIA non-EU Member States can also act as applicants.

**Who can benefit?**
The beneficiary(ies): shall be public/private sector bodies, IOs and NGOs operating in the public interest registered in CEI Member States, not members of the European Union, and ODA-eligible.

**Selection process**: the applications undergo an administrative and eligibility check on compatibility to the CEI Rules and Call for Proposals requirements within the Secretariat. The shortlisted ones are then evaluated according to a merit point system published within the text of the calls.

**Project duration**: not restricted, but approximately 1 year projects are recommended.

- The list of all projects approved since the inception of both funds is available [here](#).
- More information on specific eligibility criteria will be available on the [webpages dedicated to the 2015 calls](#).
- For more information: kep@cei.int

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1 national, regional and local authorities, education/research institutions, environmental organisations.
2 Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia
3 Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, and Ukraine.