



Call for Applications No. 2 for Support from the ‘Sustainable Tourism and Enhancing Biodiversity Programme funded under the Second Swiss Contribution – Small Grant Scheme

The Ministry of the Environment

is launching a **call for applications on 28. 03. 2025**

for the **implementation of projects** under the **small grant scheme** of the **Sustainable Tourism and Enhancing Biodiversity Programme**.

Preamble

The call is addressed to applicants who submit an application for support from the "Sustainable Tourism and Enhancing Biodiversity" Support Measure funded by the Swiss-Czech Cooperation Programme under the Second Swiss Contribution for the Implementation of projects in the field of environmental and climate protection. The call is published on the website of the Ministry of the Environment, at www.mzp.gov.cz.

Applicants acting as lead applicants may apply for support for the **implementation** of their project. It is only possible to apply for support for projects to be implemented in the territory of the Czech Republic, except for the territory of the Capital City of Prague.¹

The call for applications sets forth the conditions for granting aid and, the process for submitting and assessing grant applications.

The second Swiss Contribution

The Swiss-Czech Cooperation Programme is implemented based on the ***Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Czech Republic on the implementation of the Second Swiss Contribution to selected EU***

¹ The applicant's registered office may be located in the territory of the capital city of Prague. The project activities cannot be carried out in the City of Prague.



Member States to reduce economic and social disparities within the EU, signed on 29 June 2023. The conclusion of the Framework Agreement allows the Czech Republic to receive funds from the second Swiss Contribution under the so-called cohesion allocation in the amount of CHF 76.9 million (approx. CZK 1.845 billion), of which CHF 38.4 million (approx. CZK 921,6 million) has been allocated for the Environment and Climate Protection area.

The basic framework of the "Sustainable Tourism and Enhancing Biodiversity" Support Measure (hereinafter also referred to as "the Programme"), including its thematic areas of support, financial allocation, duration, objectives, and specific conditions of implementation is defined in the ***Specific Framework for the implementation of the Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Czech Republic on the implementation of the Second Swiss contribution to selected EU Member States to reduce economic and social disparities within the EU*** issued by Switzerland on 1st June 2023.

The implementation of the Programme is carried out in accordance with the Regulation on the implementation of the Second Swiss Contribution to selected EU Member States to reduce economic and social disparities within the EU, the Support Measure Set-Up and other implementing programme documents.

I. Introductory Provisions and Terms of the Call

1. Foundations

The overall objective of the Programme is to address the two main causes of biodiversity loss, which are largely due to human intervention in ecosystems (e.g. by landscape fragmentation) and overexploitation of ecosystems (e.g. by overtourism). This open call aims to contribute to enhancing biodiversity by reducing pressure on ecosystem functions and services in the landscape, especially in valuable natural sites.

- Strengthening biodiversity - reducing landscape and river network fragmentation in order to enhance interconnection of species populations, favourable condition of ecosystems and their functions, and permeability and stability of the landscape.
- Sustainable tourism - promoting systematic change in the management of visitor flows with respect to natural resources and ecosystem services in selected localities.

The call is open for small grant scheme projects under both pillars of the Programme: enhancing biodiversity and sustainable tourism.



2. Total Allocation and Amount of the Support

Under this call, it is possible to request support for **co-financing eligible expenditures of projects**.

The allocation for this call is CZK 106 mil.

There is no limit to the number of projects submitted per applicant.

- Support will be allocated based on the outcome of the assessment of the project application submitted under this call.
- The minimum total eligible budget per project is CZK 500,000.
- The maximum total eligible budget per project is CZK 5 million.
- The amount of the support granted under this call is up to **90% of the final eligible project expenditure**. In the case of projects involving State Aid, the maximum rate and amount of aid will be set so as to comply with the State Aid rules.
- The final amount of the support will be determined by the Grant Award Decision or similar legal act (*hereinafter referred to as the "GAD"*). If the beneficiary implements activities that exceed this amount, it is obliged to cover these additional expenses from its own resources.
- The amount paid will be based on the actual spending of the budget approved by the grantor and the final amount of support provided to the beneficiary.
- The support will generally be provided through a combination of ex-ante and ex-post payments. The applicant may request an ex-ante payment of up to 50 % of the grant amount. 10 % of the grant amount will be paid to the applicant upon the project closure, based on the approved final project report².

3. Eligible Applicants and Partnerships

An eligible applicant is any **legal entity** with a registered office in the EU with a legal personality. An eligible legal entity that may apply for support is considered to be the applicant proposing a project for the implementation of eligible activities. If the beneficiary of the project is a contributory organisation or an educational legal entity established by a region or a municipality, the beneficiary of the project shall provide the founder's consent with the grant application.

² If the beneficiary is an organisational unit of the State (OUoS), then the financing is carried out in the manner applicable to the OUoS.



Projects can be implemented alone or in partnership. A project partner may be a legal entity established in the territory of the European Union or the Swiss Confederation with legal personality, which actively participates in the project and contributes effectively to its implementation. The involvement of the Swiss partner in the implementation of the project is positively perceived and may be given extra points in the project evaluation (see evaluation criteria). **The Swiss partner is not subject to any co-financing obligation and does not bear any exchange rate risks.** The co-financing of the Swiss partner is, where appropriate, to be provided by the lead applicant of the project.

The partners' expenses can be included in the project budget. Partnership agreements must be concluded between the lead applicant and the project partners³.

Partnerships can represent an important opportunity to enhance the quality and expand the potential of a project.

Partnership does not and must not replace:

- provision of routine project administration, such as preparing monitoring reports, maintaining accounts, etc. These activities are a normal part of project management but do not in themselves define a partnership.
- provision of standard commercial services available on the market and required during the project (e.g. IT services, marketing services, etc.). Suppliers that typically provide commercial services are not considered partners unless there is a deeper collaboration that adds value beyond traditional services.
- delivery of goods and construction work.

Partnerships must not be used as a way of circumventing business relations. When selecting suppliers, it is essential to comply with the Public Procurement Act⁴.

4. Thematic Focus of the Call and Eligible Activities

Framework definition for project proposals and eligible activities:

- Creating programmes and offers for specific groups of visitors (seniors, parents with children, disabled persons).
- Organising exhibitions, educational programmes, and awareness-raising campaigns to develop sustainable tourism and reduce the environmental burden in the area.

³ Partnership agreements will be submitted prior to the issuance of the GAD.

⁴ Act No. 134/2016 Coll., on Public Procurement, as amended.



- Use of modern forms of interpretation of natural heritage and attractivity in information centres, Houses of Nature, etc. or through mobile phone applications. Promoting 'locally based learning' educational programmes.
- Organising local events aimed at presenting natural heritage, promoting local products or products of regional brands - in cooperation with municipalities and the private sector. Local events will contribute to strengthening sustainable tourism and enhancing biodiversity in the target areas.
- Development of regional and local strategies and conceptual solutions to overtourism for selected areas based on long-term research on tourist arrivals and analysis of legal instruments to ensure implementation and compliance with the necessary measures, including research on sociological aspects of visitor behaviour.
- Development of sustainable tourism strategies at local and regional level for large-scale specially protected areas (how to define the level of bearable load caused by tourism impacts - accommodation facilities - capacities, transport, sports facilities, tourist routes, seasonality, etc. for a given area, how to calculate this carrying capacity of the environment).
- Mapping of functional tools used to address negative impacts of tourism on the natural environment (spread over wider geographical areas), but without singling out the individual protected areas of interest, developing a methodology for addressing negative impacts on nature.
- Mapping of tourist behaviour in relation to damaging nature in a specific protected area - proposals for specific practical solutions to reduce negative impacts of tourism.
- Processing of analyses of visitor traffic in selected areas.
- Building or renovating environmentally friendly infrastructure in order to channel and reduce the tourist load in areas of natural value (information and education systems, nature-friendly paths, adding or adapting rest areas, waste management solutions).
- Implementation of specific measures to support the Red List of Threatened Species for the Czech Republic, with an emphasis on limiting the fragmentation of their populations by improving the condition or restoring the habitats which they inhabit, or which are potentially suitable for them, including the provision of personnel and technical capacity for the implementation of these activities.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the impact of barriers in the landscape on the migratory permeability of air, water, and terrestrial ecosystems and on the mortality of wildlife species implemented on pilot or model parts of the territory, evaluation of the effectiveness of implemented measures to ensure the permeability of the landscape.
- Comprehensive awareness-raising and educational campaigns focusing on some of the factors threatening biodiversity in the Czech Republic (e.g. invasive species, landscape fragmentation, pollinator decline, illegal killing) - projects covering a range of activities from the preparation of educational programmes, online educational materials for



schools to active elements such as excursions, competitions, and mobile exhibitions aimed at specific target groups of the Czech population.

- Projects increasing the expertise in the field of nature conservation of specific professions, such as teachers, corporate ecologists, planners, landscape architects, road and railway managers, police officers, etc., who can actively influence some of the factors threatening biodiversity in the Czech Republic.
- Awareness-raising and educational activities in the field of nature conservation and nature care.
- Projects aimed at transferring best practices and exchanging experiences through educational study exchange trips between Czech and Swiss entities, especially in the field of management, professional, and research institutions.
- Support projects that work with farmers and farm owners to spread awareness and advice, including support for the creation of new landscape features or native regional mixes, and to encourage farmers to make positive changes in farming and landscape management.

Projects may combine the types of measures and activities listed in the framework definition of the themes listed above.

5. Eligibility of Project Expenditure

An eligible expense is generally one that meets all of the following conditions:

1. it complies with the principles of effectiveness, efficiency and economy pursuant to Act No.320/2001 Coll., on Financial Control in Public Administration and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (Financial Control Act) and Act No.218/2000 Coll., on Budgetary Rules and on Amendments to Certain Related Acts, as amended;
2. it was incurred in accordance with the terms and conditions of this call;
3. it is necessary for the implementation of the project, is directly related to the implementation of its activities, and aimed at achieving the project objectives;
4. it was incurred and paid by the beneficiary within the time period set for project implementation (i.e. for the eligibility of project expenditure) specified in the GAD;
5. it was actually incurred, recorded in the accounting documents of the beneficiary, is identifiable and verifiable, substantiated by original documents in accordance with Act No. 563/1991 Coll. on Accounting, as amended.



Investment expenditures can be claimed up to a maximum of 30% of the final eligible expenditures⁵.

The project will be financed using a flat rate for fixed expenses of up to 20% of the total amount of personnel expenses, external expenses on supplies and services, and other direct eligible project expenses.

The following expenses can be financed from the project's lump sum expenditure: overheads, operating and other expenses (rent, energy, heating, water and sewerage, hardware and software for project management purposes, telecommunication services, internet connection, office supplies, data recording media, consumables, insurance, delivery and postal services, organisation of working meetings, promotional items, training and education, vehicle operating expenses, travel expenses, travel allowances, fuel, domestic and international travel).

Lump sum expenses, the amount of which is determined using a flat rate, do not need to be substantiated by tax, accounting, or other documents. Expenditure financed at a flat rate cannot be included as direct project expenditure.

Value added tax relating to eligible expenditure is an eligible expenditure if the beneficiary is not liable for this tax or is not entitled to deduct this tax.

Ineligible expenses are:

- expenditure that has not been specified and approved in the final project proposal,
- expenditure not incurred in accordance with the objectives and activities of the project,
- expenditure not incurred within the timeframe for project implementation
- investment expenditures exceeding 30% of the total eligible project expenditures
- expenses for the implementation of activities outside the territory of the Czech Republic and the Swiss Confederation,
- expenditure not supported by appropriate accounting documents,
- fines, financial penalties, and legal costs related to the litigation,
- value added tax with the entitlement to tax deduction,
- other expenditure on taxes and administrative charges,
- interests on loans,
- exchange rate losses,
- purchase of land and real estate.

⁵ For the purposes of the project, an investment expenditure will be considered as tangible fixed assets (hereinafter also TFA) with a value exceeding CZK 80,000 and a useful life of more than one year. The types of assets falling under this expenditure will correspond to the list of tangible assets as defined in Section 26(2) of Act No. 586/1992 Coll., on Income Taxes. This includes, in particular, real estate and separate movable assets (e.g., machines and vehicles), reconstructions or extensions, mature animals and their groups with a value exceeding CZK 80,000, etc.



6. Sustainability

Sustainability is the time period for which the beneficiary must maintain the purpose, objectives, and outputs of the project. The sustainability of the project will be described in the project description and must be set at a minimum of 3 years. The minimum sustainability period of the project will be specified in the GAD. The project sustainability report will be submitted as part of the project monitoring reports. During the sustainability period, the beneficiary may be required to report on the sustainability of the project outputs or to verify compliance with the conditions on the site.

7. State Aid

State Aid - Basic Conditions

Projects submitted by public sector applicants that are of a non-economic⁶ nature (non-economic activity) carried out on their own land do not constitute State Aid.

Non-profit organisations must be considered according to the activities they actually carry out, i.e. whether they carry out non-economic or economic activities. Their legal form is not decisive.

Support under this call may only be provided in accordance with the rules governing State Aid:

- Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 of 13th December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid,
- Commission Regulation (EU) 1408/2013 of 18th December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid in the agriculture sector,
- Commission Regulation (EU) 717/2014 of 27th June 2014 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Each applicant and its project are assessed individually in terms of the public aid rules. In specific cases, we recommend consulting the grant provider.

⁶ The essential point is that the enterprise does not develop economic activity. Economic activity means any offering of goods and/or services on the market, regardless of whether it is conducted for the purpose of making a profit or not. The unprofitability of the enterprise does not play a role.



8. Questions and Consultations

Questions and consultations can be:

- raised orally on the following telephone numbers: 267 122 848, 267 122 366, 267 122 795.
- sent by email to swiss@mzp.gov.cz

Enquiries may be submitted at the earliest from the date of announcement of the open call and no later than 5 working days before the deadline for submission of the application. The reply will be sent to the applicant within 5 working days, but no later than on the closing date of the call. A personal consultation can be arranged by telephone on the telephone numbers (and via the e-mail address) provided above.

Frequently asked questions and answers for the call will be published on the following website:
<https://mzp.gov.cz/cz/agenda/prehled-dotaci/program-svycarsko-ceske-spoluprace-ii>

The related programme documents are publicly available and can be downloaded from:

- the website of the Ministry of the Environment:
<https://mzp.gov.cz/cz/agenda/prehled-dotaci/program-svycarsko-ceske-spoluprace-ii>
- the website of the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic:
<http://www.svycarskyprogram.cz>

9. Annexes to the Call

- Annex 1: Application for support
- Annex 2: Project application form
- Annex 3: Checklist for assessing formal requirements and general criteria for the evaluation of acceptability
- Annex 4: Affidavit of the *de minimis* aid applicant (may be requested before signing the GAD)



II. Progress of the Call

1. Requirements for the Content and Format of the Application

The call is organised in a single round. The application for support (Annex 1 of the call) together with the **project application** (Annex 2 of the call) **and other relevant annexes** signed by the applicant's statutory representative or his/her authorised representative (hereinafter referred to as the 'authorised person') must be submitted **no later than on 27th June 2025** via **data box**. The identifier of the MoE's data box is: **9gsaax4**.

The applicant may submit the project application throughout the entire period designated for the call.

An application submitted via data box will include

1. A completed application form for support (Annex 1 of the call) submitted in PDF format and signed by an authorised person with a valid qualified electronic signature in accordance with Act No. 297/2016 Coll., on electronic signature.
2. Annex 1 of the aid application: Power of attorney or other authorisation to represent the authorised person, if applicable, in PDF format.
3. Annex 2 of the aid application: data on the beneficial owner of the legal entity according to the law regulating the registration of beneficial owners in the form of a complete list of valid data and data that has been deleted without replacement or with replacement by new data, if it concerns the registering person.⁷ Non-registered persons are not obligated to submit the attachment.
4. A completed project application form (Annex 2 of the call) in PDF format and in editable DOC/DOCX format.
5. A completed Annex 1 of the project application – 'Detailed project budget' in XLXS/XLS format.
6. A completed Annex 2 of the project application – 'Description of the involvement of the Swiss partner - example in English' in PDF and DOC/DOCX format, if applicable.
7. Optional annexes supplementing the project description (Annex 3 of the project application).

The subject line of the data message must read: "CALL FOR A SWISS-CZECH COOPERATION PROGRAMME - SMALL GRANT SCHEME - DO NOT OPEN BEFORE EVALUATION".

⁷ This obligation can be fulfilled by attaching a full extract from the register of beneficial owners available at <https://esm.justice.cz/>.



The provider does not consider an incorrect subject line of the message to be a formal error, but at the same time, the provider shall not be held liable for the non-delivery of the report to the Department of Financial and Voluntary Instruments of the Ministry of the Environment (hereinafter referred to as "the Department").

The application must be submitted in the data mailbox system no later than by 23:59:59 on the closing date for receipt of applications.

2. Information for Processing of the Application

- The application for support is processed in Czech⁸.
- Expenditure in the application for support and in all project documents will be listed in Czech crowns. For the conversion of the Swiss partner's expenses, the exchange rate of the European Commission valid in the month of the call announcement available at https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/exchange-rate-infoeuro_en will be used.
- The project application will include in particular the project title, the name of the applicant, the proposed partnership structure, the project objective, a detailed description of the proposed activities and outputs, the proposed indicators, and a detailed project budget. In the project application, the applicant shall specifically describe the involvement of the various project partners and provide other relevant annexes as required. More detailed information is provided in the project application form.
- Further information can be obtained from the Ministry of the Environment's website at <https://mzp.gov.cz/cz/agenda/prehled-dotaci/program-svycarsko-ceske-spoluprace-ii> and also by direct enquiry to the Department of Financial and Voluntary Instruments (320) of the Ministry of the Environment via the helpdesk: swiss@mzp.gov.cz (no later than 5 working days before the deadline for submission of applications).

3. Application Evaluation Process

1. Assessment of Compliance with Formal Requirements

The evaluation of the project application in terms of its compliance with the formal requirements will be carried out by the Department staff based on the checklist (Annex 3 of the call). In particular, the following requirements will be checked:

- submission in due time;
- submission in the prescribed form, i.e. via a data box;
- completion of the project implementation by 31st October 2028 at the latest;

⁸ The exception is Annex 2 of the project application - Description of the involvement of the Swiss partner – example in English.



- documents signed by an authorised representative where required;
- authorisations where relevant;
- mandatory annexes, in the required format.

In the event that the Department's staff finds correctable deficiencies in the submitted project application in terms of compliance with the formal requirements, they will request the applicant to address them or to supplement the application. It will be possible to correct the deficiencies within a specified period of at least five working days following the request to supplement the application, sent to the contact e-mail address indicated in the application for support. Failure by the applicant to meet the non-correctable (irreparable) formal requirements criteria will result in automatic rejection of the application for support.

In the case of applications for support that fail to meet the criteria of formal requirements within the set deadline, even after submitting a the additionally supplemented information, the evaluation will be concluded and the applicant will be sent a notification of the project's exclusion due to failure to meet the formal criteria (the applicants concerned will be informed of this step by a letter sent via data box). Objections may be lodged against this notification within 5 working days of its receipt. The applicant will be informed of the outcome of any objections in writing by the Director of the Department.

2. Expert Assessment

If the project application is formally complete, it proceeds to the expert assessment process.

The full project application will be evaluated by two evaluators. At least one evaluation will be conducted independently of the assessments by sectoral organizations or technical departments of the Ministry of the Environment. Each evaluator must have previous experience in project evaluation and must demonstrate his/her competence by submitting a professional CV. The list of nominated evaluators will be approved by the Director General of the Environmental Economics Section of the Ministry of the Environment (hereinafter referred to as 'the Director General of the Section').

The evaluation will be carried out using a scoring system and evaluation criteria published in the call below. The evaluation will result in the arithmetic mean of the two expert evaluations. Each project application may receive a maximum of 100 points. If the two evaluators' scores differ by more than 30 points, a third evaluator will carry out the evaluation. The final evaluation of the project will then be the arithmetic mean of the two closest scores (in case of equality of scores, the higher ones).

The expert evaluators shall evaluate, in particular, whether the full description of the individual actions indicates that the project objectives can be achieved with the expected quality of outputs, within the timeframe, and for the expected financial resources.



Based on the resulting score (arithmetic mean), a ranking of the projects will be established.

Subsequently, **all** evaluated applications with an arithmetic mean of 50 points or more will be submitted to the Evaluation Committee for further discussion.

3. Assessment of Project Applications by the Evaluation Committee

The Evaluation Committee will be composed of at least five members. The members of the Evaluation Committee will be representatives of the expert departments of the Ministry of the Environment and, where appropriate, other public expert organisations. Representatives of the National Coordination Unit – Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic (NCU) and the Swiss Coordination Office (SCO) may participate in the Evaluation Committee meetings as observers.

The Evaluation Committee will review all project applications submitted to it by the evaluators. Based on its evaluation, the Evaluation Committee will decide on the ranking of the projects and draw up a list of supported, reserve, and unsupported projects

The Evaluation Committee will discuss the submitted projects in the order of the final score obtained in the application assessment process and will review the expert opinions of the evaluators. The Evaluation Committee may, in justified cases, adjust the scoring of individual projects, such as in cases where:

- the scoring of the expert opinion of one expert evaluator is in all cases unduly harsh/soft. In such a case, all ratings of that evaluator will be reviewed.
- the technical assessment of the proposal is clearly not in line with the evaluation criteria.

If the Evaluation Committee changes the scoring of the project(s), it must give clear and detailed reasons for its evaluation. This change will always be justified in the minutes of the Evaluation Committee meeting. The Evaluation Committee shall decide on the change by its resolution.

Based on the results and its assessment, the Evaluation Committee will draw up a list of projects and decide which projects will be supported, which will be supported with a condition or a reduction of the grant, which will be reserve projects, and which will not be supported. This list of projects shall be submitted to the members of the Steering Committee for information. The Commission may propose certain projects (e.g. high-risk projects or with specific conditions) for consideration by the Steering Committee.

4. Steering Committee of the Programme

The voting members of the Programme Steering Committee are representatives of the following institutions: The Swiss Coordination Office, the National Coordination Unit of the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic.



The Steering Committee (hereinafter referred to as the SC) acknowledges the list submitted by the Evaluation Committee. Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee, the identified projects may be further discussed by the Steering Committee.

5. Notification of the Result of the Evaluation of the Project Applications

Applicants are notified of the evaluation results of the project applications in writing by a letter from the Director of the Department with a notification of approval / disapproval of the application for support from the Programme sent via data box. No appeal or challenge is admissible against the result of the assessment.

The results of the call will also be published on the website of the Ministry of the Environment.

4. Grant Award Decision

Based on the results of the evaluation of the project applications, a legal act will be issued to the applicants by the Director General of the Section on granting the aid from the Programme. A Grant Award Decision or a similar legal act on the granting of the aid will be issued to the projects to be supported⁹.

The signing of the GAD establishes the final amount of support granted and the relationship between the beneficiary and the grantor will be governed by this legal act.

The Department may request additional documents before signing the GAD¹⁰. The GAD will include, among other things, instructions for submitting bills, conditions for submitting reports, and the payment schedule.

The applicant is not legally entitled to the grant.

5. Evaluation Criteria

The project applications will be assessed based on the following criteria, which are detailed in the project application form. The form is an integral part of the documentation for this call as Annex 3 (Project Application Form). The maximum number of points that can be awarded to a project is 100 points

⁹ In case the beneficiary of the project is an organisational unit of the state, a legal act of approval of the project is issued.

¹⁰ E.g. Affidavit of the de minimis aid applicant; partnership agreement, etc.



The distribution of points between the individual criteria and sub-criteria is as follows:

Evaluation Criteria and Sub-Criteria (*100 points in total*):

- Basic background - *10 points in total*
 - Environmental problem addressed by the project - *7 points*
 - Compliance of the project objectives with environmental legislation, strategic documents, and the Programme - *3 points*
- Project impacts - *35 points in total*
 - Objectives and impacts - *25 points*
 - Sustainability - *10 points*
- Implementation - *30 points in total*
 - Description of the Project Implementation (planned activity) - *25 points*
 - Stakeholders and target groups - *5 points*
- Prerequisites- *25 points in total*
 - Swiss-Czech partnership - *6 points*
 - Partnership structure and project management - *5 points*
 - Risk analysis - *5 points*
 - Project budget - *9 points*

The method of awarding points is as follows:

The evaluators will award points based on the quality and completeness of the information provided under each sub-criterion. The allocation of points will be determined on the basis of an assessment of the quality of performance according to the percentage scale below. The overall score for each sub-criterion is expressed in points, 100 % being the maximum number of points that can be awarded for that sub-criterion.

Classification of the performance according to a percentage scale:

1. Excellent performance (76-100%):

- The description is detailed, comprehensive, and contains all relevant information.
- In addition to the narrative, supporting data are provided to substantiate the claims and analyses made in the application.
- All key aspects of the sub-criteria are covered with a high degree of accuracy and relevance.



- The individual descriptions are well justified, with clear links between the arguments presented, supporting data, and conclusions. The justifications are consistent, logically structured and directly related to the objectives and requirements of the project.

2. Good performance (51-75%):

- The description is detailed and covers most of the relevant information, although some supporting data may be missing or less comprehensive.
- The sub-criterion is generally well described, but some details could be elaborated in more detail.
- Supporting data is present but not fully or insufficiently.

3. Partial description (26-50 %):

- The description contains very limited number of details and key information is missing or very superficially described.
- Supporting data is insufficient or completely missing, making it difficult to assess the relevance and quality of the information submitted.
- The sub-criterion is only partially covered, which significantly reduces the value of the description provided.

4. None or very general description (0-25%):

- The sub-criterion is not described at all, or the description is so general that it does not provide any relevant information.
- There is no supporting data provided, and the description lacks specificity and details.
- Such a description does not provide a sufficient basis for the evaluator to award a higher rating.

Evaluation Procedure

The evaluators first review and analyse the information provided for each sub-criterion. Based on the quality, completeness and supporting data, they will assign appropriate scores within the given range. Once the points have been allocated for each sub-criterion, these points will be added together to give an overall score for the application. Finally, the evaluator will summarise and verbally describe his/her overall project rating.



6. Call Timetable

- Call announcement: **28th March 2025**
- Closing date (deadline) for receipt of applications: **27th June 2025**
- Expected date of announcement of the evaluation results: **20th October 2025**
- Expected possible start date of project implementation: **1st November 2025**
- Latest date for completion of projects: **31st October 2028**
- End of eligibility of project expenditure: **31st October 2028**