# PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR FILLING IN THE APPLICATION FORM

## Introduction

Considering the fact that excel-based application form is used for the first time in cross-border programmes among Western Balkan countries, relevant management structures and Contracting Authorities recognized the need for the development of this document that could serve as an a additional tool for potential applicants. Please note that this guide is <u>not</u> an official part of the Application Package and its sole purpose is to provide technical instructions (excel related issues) to potential applicants on how to correctly fill in the application form.

In case any changes occur in the application form during the preparation of the Calls for Proposal, this document will be updated accordingly. However, using the most up-to-date application form by regularely consulting relevant webpages where the call for proposals is published is the sole reponsibility of the applicants.

For your convenience the information presented in this guide has also been included in the application form (in the grey non-printable section on the right side of your screen, *in italic*).

## General technical instructions

Before explaining main technical characteristics of an excel-based application form, it is important to clarify that the purpose of this type of application form is not only to simplify and to speed up the application process for the potential applicants but also to prevent them in making administrative mistakes that can cause elimination of good projects during the evaluation process after months and months of hard work on project preparation.

In addition, please note that this application form is a tool that does not only allow for proper evaluation of the project proposals, but is also used for the monitoring of the project's progress during the implementation phase as entire management of information.

#### **Macros**

Please note that this Application form contains macros. When opening the application form, if you get the warning that macros need to be enabled for the application form to function, please change the settings to allow for macros (a warning window will pop up and provide you with options, either 'enable macros' or 'yes' in order to allow the auto-calculations of financial data or 'add field' functions).

If the warning window does not pop up, you will have to enable macros manually: from the drop-down menu in Excel select **tools/macro/security/security level => choose 'medium' or 'low'**.

Please be aware that because the macros are activated, certain operations (e.g. saving the file, changing between the worksheets, selecting yes/no buttons, etc) might take more time than usually, which will just require a bit of patience and does not mean that your computer is "frozen".

## ♦ Input fields

Please note that all input fields must be filled in. All other fields have been protected and entering information into those is not possible.

PLEASE note that the certain data which are repeating throughout the application form (such as the names of the applicants, information about the applicants, information from the budget sheets, etc.) will be automatically replicated to relevant cells!

## ◆ Textboxes

Please note that you have only a limited amount of space available in each textbox cell (usually 1000 characters). When you will reach the 1000 characters you should then add another textbox. The maximum number of textboxes that can be inserted in a given input field is always indicated in the application form just next to the respective button for adding textboxes.

## **♦ Tick-boxes**

Certain input fields are in a form of a tick-box. When marking a tick-box, please click on the box and select 'X' from the dropdown menu. If you want to remove the mark, please click on the marked tick box and press the delete button on your keyboard.

## Add buttons

At various instances in the application form, in the right side grey area, various Add buttons appear, allowing you to add either text boxes or tables, as required. For certain worksheets there are limitations to the number of e.g. text boxes that you can add and this is indicated in the same grey area on the right-hand side.

## **♦** Error messages

For some sections the correctness of the information provided or missing is automatically verified by the application form and in such cases the relevant error message is displayed in red text in the grey area next to the cell in question. In addition, the cover page will contain the following line of text in red: *There are still error messages shown*, until you have made all the necessary corrections. Furthermore, in the table of contents sheet the sections which are incomplete or contain an error message will also be indicated. The submitted applications must not contain any error messages!

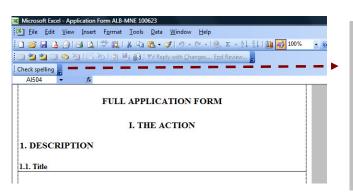
#### Finalise&Print&Save button

This button located at the cover sheet of the application form should be used <u>only</u> once you have completely finalised the application form and are ready to submit it. All the worksheets will be printed out in the chronological order and with appropriate numbering – please note that the print area and page breaks are already predefined and you cannot modify them!

By clicking on the **Finalise&Print&Save** button, a unique **checksum** number will appear in both hard copy and electronic version of the application form, indicating that both are identical. Should you make any, however small, modifications to the application form after clicking on this button, the checksum will be changed, making the printed out copy not identical with the electronic one.

During the process of preparing your application and gradually filling in the application form, you can save your excel file by simply selecting the *Save* or *Save As* options from the *File* menu in Excel – just like with any other regular excel file. the .allows you to save changes to the application form and print out all the worksheets.

## ♦ Check spelling button

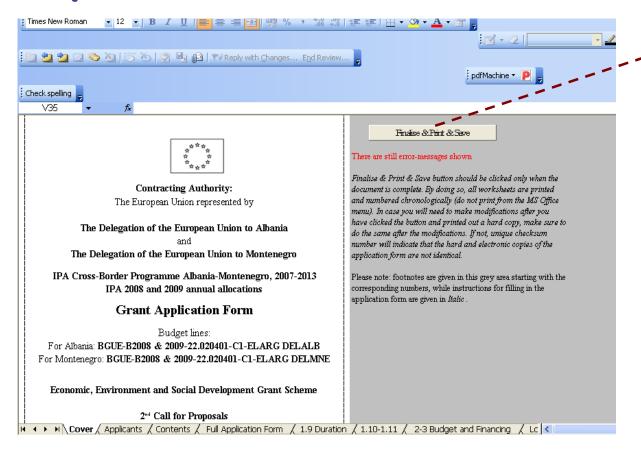


The spell check of any text you enter into the application form can be performed by selecting the desired cell and clicking on the **Check spelling** button, located in the toolbox area above the application form.

#### Instructions

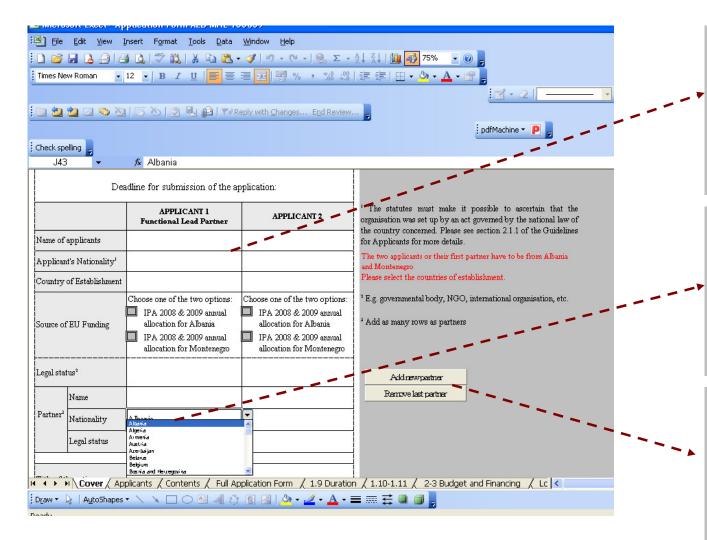
Footnotes from the EC application form template are also given in the above-mentioned grey area starting with the corresponding numbers, while as mentioned earlier instructions for filling in the application form are given in Italic in the same grey section.

# **Cover Page**



Please press this *Finalise & Print & Save*button at the end of the process, only once the
document is complete. By doing so, all
worksheets are printed and numbered
chronologically (do not print from the MS

Office menu). In case you will need to make
modifications after you have clicked the button
and printed out a hard copy, make sure to do
the same after the modifications. If not, the
unique checksum number will indicate that the
hard and electronic copies of the application
form are not identical.



Once that you have filled in general information on the name and nationality of the applicants, this data will be automatically replicated wherever it is further necessary, e.g. Declaration by Applicants, Partnership Statements, etc.

By clicking on the drop-down menu, you can choose the nationality of your partners. The error messages in red will only disappear if the two applicants or their first partners are from the relevant countries, as required in GfA!

Space provided is for one partner per applicant. If an applicant has more than one partner, a respective number of cells should be added by clicking on the buttons. Same functionality of buttons is repeating throughout the application form.

Check spelli	ing 💂				
V41	▼ f <sub>x</sub> if i	not listed, enter the text manually			
		Reference:		П	
	Dead	dline for submission of the a	pplication:		
				$\mathbf{H}$	land and the second of the
		APPLICANT 1	APPLICANT 2		<sup>1</sup> The statutes must make it possible to ascertain that the organisation was set up by an act governed by the national law of the commit-
		Functional Lead Partner			concerned. Please see section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for Applicant
Name of	applicants				for more details.
A E	o Nicolard			П	The two applicants or their first partner have to be from Albania and
Applicant	t s INationality			Ш	Montenegro
Country of	of Establishment				Please select the countries of establishment.
		Ci ci c	Ct. Ct	Н	<sup>2</sup> E.g. governmental body, NGO, international organisation, etc.
		Choose one of the two options:	Choose one of the two options:	1 1	E.g. governmental body, NGO, international organisation, etc.
		IPA 2008 & 2009 annual	IPA 2008 & 2009 annual		Add as many rows as partners
Source of	f EU Funding	allocation for Albania	allocation for Albania		Add as many rows as partners
		IPA 2008 & 2009 annual	IPA 2008 & 2009 annual		
		allocation for Montenegro	allocation for Montenegro		
Legal stat	tus of the applicant <sup>2</sup>		if not listed, enter the text		Add new partner
	Deac  Name of applicants  Applicant's Nationality <sup>1</sup> Country of Establishment  Source of EU Funding  Legal status of the applicant <sup>2</sup> Name	manually	manually		Remove last partner
			IF NOT LISTED, ENTER THE TEXT MAN	IUALL 2	and the second s
	Name		national and regional authorities / instit state agencies	itutio	
Partner <sup>3</sup>			local government units and their institu associations of municipalities and / or o		
	Nationality		development agencies		
İ	Logal status		business support organizations (such a foundations and non-governmental org		
	Legai status			Ш	
		I		Щ	
Tru Cd					
	Cover Applicants	/ Contents / Full Application France	/ 1.0 Duration / 1.10.1.11 / 3.3	2 0	act and Figure in a / Logical framework
4 4 5 8	cover Applicants	Concents / Full Application Form	/ 1.9 Duration / 1.10-1.11 / 2-3	2 Rng	get and Financing / Logical framework   <

Legal Status: Applicants should choose from the legal statuses listed in the drop-down menu.

If none of the listed options is applicable, please enter the free text directly into the cell.

Title of the action Measure 1.1: Economic development with an emphasis on Title of the measure under urism promotion which the application is submitted Measure 1.2: programme area (Rožaje, MNE), please note that, accor Measure 1.3: article 97 of the IPA IR (718/2007), EU funding may Total eligible cost of the € 0.00 expenditure incurred in implementing operations or part of or action in this municipality up to a limit of 20% of the amount of contribution to the cross-border programme in Montenegro. I Location(s) of the action expenditure required for their implementation must be exprethe opening section of the Application Form and in section 1.3. Total duration of the action 0 months see for reference section 1.3 of the Guidelines.

From the drop-down menu please select the Measure under which the application is submitted. Full title of the measure is then automatically filled in to the right.

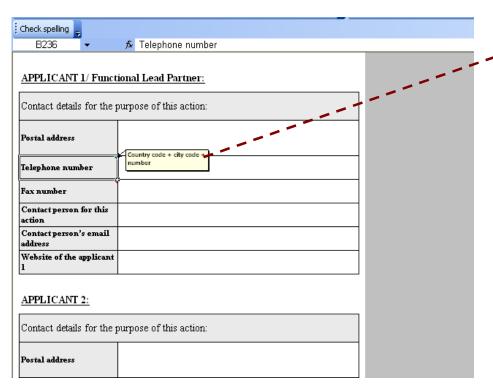
The data on the total eligible cost of the action can not be entered here; the data will be automatically filled in once you create Joint Budge of the Action! Please see instructions on how to create *Joint Budget!* 

Please fill in the data on the Location (s) of the action and its duration here. This data is then automatically replicated to the other parts of the Application Form.

	APPLICANT 1 Functional Lead Partner	APPLICANT 2	TOTAL (APLICANT 1 + APPLICANT 2)	
Total eligible cost of the action (A)	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	
Amount requested from the Contracting Authority (B)	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	
% of total eligible cost of action (B/Ax100)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
Amount for activities in adjacent regions (C) <sup>4</sup>	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	<sup>4</sup> Please see section 1
% of Amount requested from the Contracting Authorities for activities in adjacent regions (C/Bx100)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	

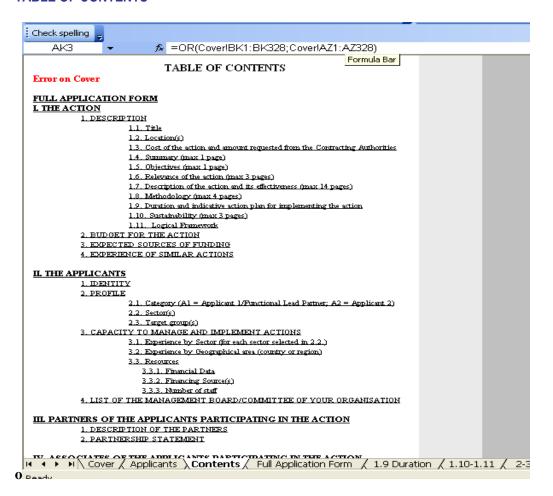
You can not fill in data here! This table will be automatically created once you develop all Budget sheets of the Action! If an error message appears, please correct the budget spread-sheet in order to remove the mistake.

# **Second Sheet – the Applicants**



The Second sheet of the Application Form is related to the contact details of the Applicants for the purpose of the Action. Please enter necessary data as required. Where visible, the red triangles in the top right corner of a cell indicate exact instructions on information required.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**



Clicking on the titles and sub-titles will automatically lead you to the relevant part of the Application Form.

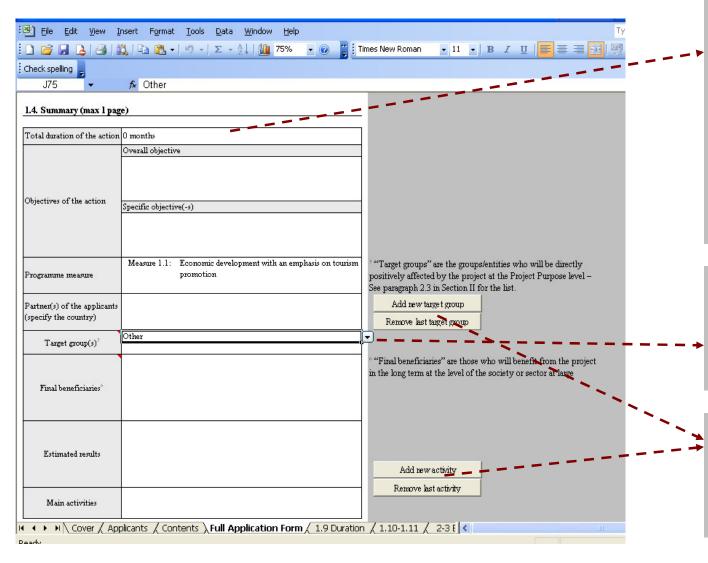
Please note that in most cases if you failed or made a mistake in filling in the AF, the Error messages will show in red letters on this page, and if relevant title or sub-title is clicked, you will be taken to the part which requires correction.

# **PART B – FULL APPLICATION FORM**

Location(s)  Cost of the action and amount requested from the Contracting Authorities  Applicants  Applicants  Applicants  Partner  al eligible cost of the on (A)  count requested from Contracting Authority  Contracting Authorit				
.l. Title	ESCRIPTION  Site  Section of the action and amount requested from the Contracting Authorities  Applicants  Applicants  Functional Lead Partner eligible cost of the (APLICANT 1 APPLICANT 2)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 3)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 3)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 4)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 4)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 5)  eligible cost of the (APLICANT 6)  eligible cost of (APLICANT 1)  eligible cost of (APLICANT 2)  eligible cost of (APLI			
.2. Location(s)				
3. Cost of the action and				
Applicants			(APLICANT 1 +	
otal eligible cost of the tion (A)	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	
mount requested from ne Contracting Authority 3)	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	
of total eligible cost of tion (B/Ax100)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
mount for activities in djacent regions (C) <sup>4</sup>	€0,00	€0,00	€0,00	4 -
		#DIVMI	#DIV/0!	

Points. 1.1 and 1.2 will be automatically transferred from the Cover Page.

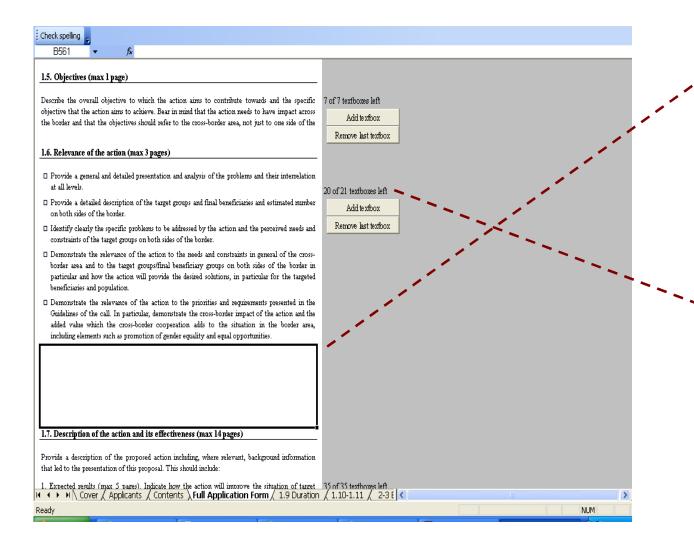
Point 1.3 will be automatically replicated from the Budget Sheets!



Please note that certain data in the Point 1.4 Summary will be automatically transferred form the Cover page (Total duration of the action, Programme measure you have selected and the data on applicant's partners). The remaining input fields are simply filled in just by entering relevant text.

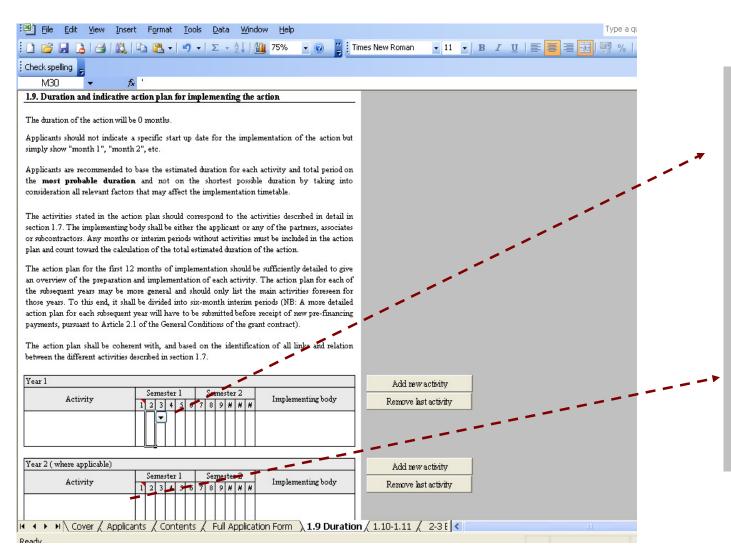
You can choose Target Group from the drop-down menu. If not listed, please choose *Other*, and enter your target group in the cell below.

If you have more then one target group or you need to list/remove your main activities please use Add and Remove buttons on the side!



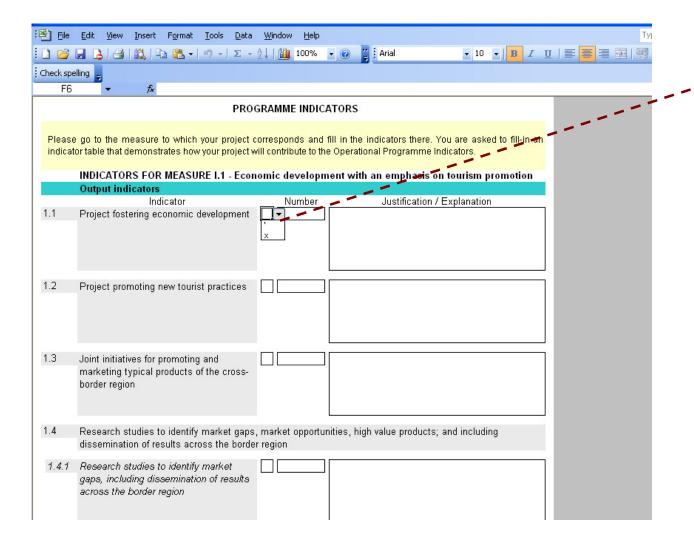
Fill in points 1.5, 1.6., 1.7, and 1.8, 1.10 by adding/writing text in textboxes. Same as in the standard word template and as shown in the titles (e.g Objectives (max 1 page) this sections are limited with the number of pages. The number and size of the textboxes are in line with the EC template requirements.

After each new input in the textboxes, you will be able to see how many textboxes are there left!



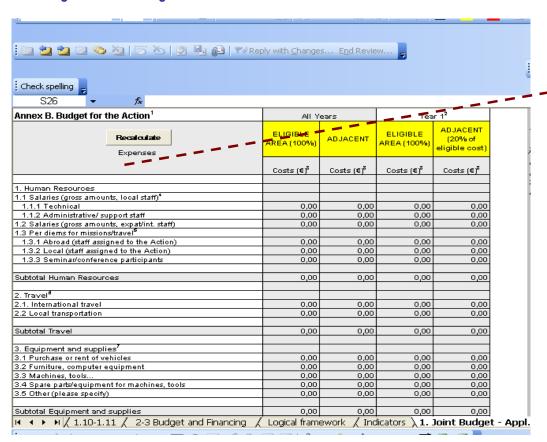
The activities that you have listed under the section 1.4 will be automatically replicated to this section, therefore to fill in section 1.9 please choose X from the drop-down menu where appropriate!

If your project is planned for a duration of 12 or less months, just ignore the "Year 2" table by keeping it as it is (not selecting any months, even if the activities are listed there under).



To fill in this Section, please chose where appropriate X from the drop-down menu and then fill in other required data!

# 2-3. Budget and Financing



Please make sure that you first fill in the individual budget sheets (blue and red spreadsheets). Once the individual budget sheets are finalised or modified, please click on the "Recalculate" button to generate the joint budget. Please note that the joint budget is generated ONLY by clicking the "Recalculate" button and that you must manually repeat this after each and every modification on any of the applicants' separate budgets (if not, error message will appear here and in the content page).

					4 /=		B							
			A	PPLICANT	1 (Funct	tional Lead	Partner)							
nnex B. Budget for the Action <sup>1</sup>	Action <sup>1</sup> All Years						Year 1 <sup>2</sup>							
Expenses		ELIGIBLE AREA				ADJACENT	T Unit			ELIGIBLE AR	EA	ADJACENT		
		# of units	Unit rate (€)	Costs (€) <sup>2</sup>	# of units Unit rate (€)		Costs (€) <sup>2</sup>	<u> </u>	# of units	Unit rate (€)	Costs (€) <sup>2</sup>	# of units Unit rate (€)		Costs (€)°
Human Resources	_	+	7	8										
1 Salaries (gross amounts, local staff)*														
	■ Permonth	0		0.00		0.00	0.00	Peronth		0.00	0.00		0,00	0
	■ Permonth		2	0,00		0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00		0,00	0
	■ Per month	_		0,00		0,00	0,00	Per month		0,00	9,00		0,00	0
3 Per diems for missions/travel <sup>5</sup>		(V)						775 V 275 CO						
1.3.1 Abroad (staff assigned to the Action)	■ Perdiem			0,00		0,00	0,00	Per diem		0,00	0,00		0,00	0
1.3.2 Local (staff assigned to the Action)	Perdiem			0,00		0,00	0,00	Per diam		0,00	0,00		0,00	0
1.3.3 Seminar/conference participants	■ Perdiem			0,00		0,00	0,00	Per diem		0,00	0,00		0,00	0
ıbtotal Human Resources		1	4	0,00			0,00			9	0,00			0
Travel <sup>8</sup>		+												
	■ Perflight			0,00		0.00	0,00	Perflight		0,00	0,00		0.00	0
	■ Per month			0,00		0.00	0,00			0.00	0.00		0.00	0
ubtotal Travel		1		0,00			0,00				0,00			0
Equipment and supplies		+												
	Pervehick			0,00		0,00	0,00	Pervehicle		0.00	0,00		0.00	0
	1.			0.00		0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00		0.00	0
	<b>.</b>		2	0,00		0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00	<del></del>	0,00	0
4 Spare parts/equipment for machines, tools	<b>.</b>			0,00		0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00		0,00	0
	i ii			0,00		0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00		0,00	0
ubtotal Equipment and supplies		1		0,00			0,00				0,00		. – –	0
Local office									_				-	
1 Vehicle costs	■■ Permonth	8		0,00		0,00	0,00	Per month		0,00	0,00		0,00	0
2 Office rent	Per month	0.		0.00		0.00	0.00	Per month		0.00	0,00		0.00	0

Please click the <u>green button</u> to open new rows under a specific heading or budget line. Please click the <u>red button</u> to remove the last row opened under a specific heading or budget line.

Unit rates for the adjacent area for "All years" and for eligible and adjacent area for the "Year 1" are entered through entering the unit rate under eligible area for "All years" (i.e. when you enter the unit rate in the first column, it will self-replicate in the other three columns). If you do not envisage any expenditure in the adjacent region, please note that the unit rate will still be visible in the corresponding column, but it will not be computed in the total if the units are left empty.

# Justification of the budget and Source of funding

		pdfMa			
Check spelling					
D2 ▼ f₂ The headings and	rows are generated automatically f	rom the individual budget sheet.			
APPLICAN	IT 1 (Functional Lead Partner)				
Justification of the Budget for the Action	,				
Expenses	Clarification of a budget line 1	Justification of expenses estimation <sup>2</sup>			
1. Human Resources					
1.1 Salaries (gross amounts, local staff)					
1.1.1 Technical					
1.1.2 Administrative/ support staff					
1.2 Salaries (gross amounts, expat/int. staff)					
1.3 Per diems for missions/travel					
1.3.1 Abroad (staff assigned to the Action)					
1.3.2 Local (staff assigned to the Action)					
1.3.3 Seminar/conference participants					
Subtotal Human Resources					
2. Travel					
2.1. International travel					
2.2 Local transportation					
Subtotal Travel					
3. Equipment and supplies					
3.1 Purchase or rent of vehicles					
3.2 Furniture, computer equipment					
3.3 Machines, tools					
3.4 Spare parts/equipment for machines, tools					
3.5 Other (please specify)					
Subtotal Equipment and supplies					
4 1 1 17					
4. Local office					
4.1 Vehicle costs					
4.2 Office rent					
4.3 Consumables - office supplies 4.4 Other senrices (fel/fax_electricity/heating					
	ol. 1 and 2 🔏 <mark>1. Budget - Applicant</mark>	1 2. Justification Applicant 1			
Draw ▼ 🖟   AutoShapes ▼ 🔪 🔲 🔘 🔠 🗸	4 0 2 3 4 · <u>4</u> · <u>A</u> · <u>5</u>	<b>■ ₹  0 6 ]</b>			

The headings and rows are generated automatically from the individual budget sheet.

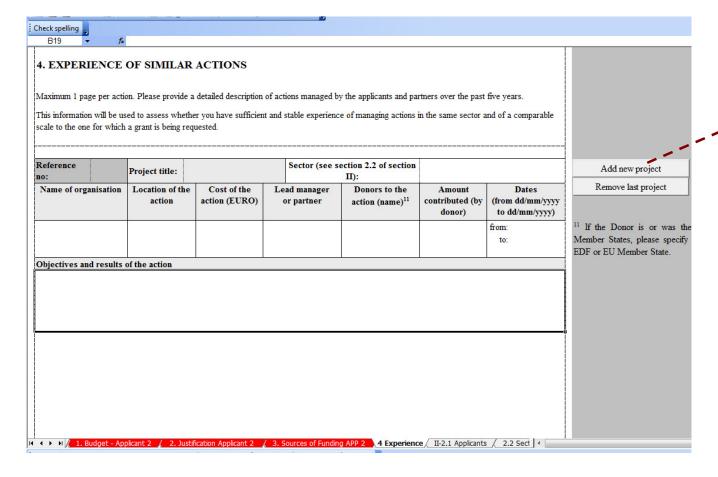
"Clarification..." and

"Justification..." are to be filled in manually.

APPLICANT 1 (Functional Lead Partner)					APPLICANT 2				
Expected sources of funding	Amount EUR	Percentage of total	Amount <sup>1</sup> EUR	Percentage <sup>2</sup>	Expected sources of funding	Amount EUR	Percentage of total	Amount <sup>1</sup> EUR	Percentage of total %
	EUK	or total %	EUR	or total	-		70		70
		//0		/0	Applicant's financial contribution		#DIV/0!		
applicant's financial contribution		#DIV/0!							
1				Ì	European Commission contribution sought in this application		#DIV/0!	0,00	#DIV/0!
uropean Commission contribution sought in this application	0,00	#DIV/0!	0,00	#DIV/0!					
					Contribution(s) from other European Institutions or EU Member States		#DIV/0!		
ontribution(s) from other European Institutions or EU Member States	0,00	#DIV/0!			/				
	1				Contributions from other organisations:		40 t 40 t		
ontributions from other organisations:	•				Name Conditions		#DIV/0! #DIV/0!		
lame Conditions	0,00	#DIV/0!			Name Conditions Name Conditions		#DIV/0!		
lame Conditions	00,00	#DIV/0!			Name Conditions  Name Conditions		#DIV/0!		
lame Conditions	0.00	#DIV/0!			Name Conditions		#DIV/0!		
lame Conditions	0,0	#DIV/0!			TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	0.00			
lame Conditions	0,0	#DIV/0!			TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	0,00	1101770:		
OTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	00,00	#DIV/0!							
		1			Direct revenue from the Action		#DIV/0!		
Pirect revenue from the Action	0,00	<b>₩</b> DIV/0!							
orect revenue from the Action	00,00	#DIV/U!			OVERALL TOTAL	0,00	#DIV/0!		
OVERALL TOTAL	0,00	#01\/\0!			/			1	
↓ → N / 1, Budget - Applicant 1 / 2, Justification Applicant 1 3			Dudest Austr		H ( ) N ( 1. Budget - Applicant 2 ( 2. Justification Applicant 2 )3. Sou	week of Funding	ADD 3 / 4 Evenos	ioneo / II O 1 Av	onlie d
A P P IX 1. Budget - Applicant 1 X 2. Justification Applicant 1 X 3	. Sources of Fur	iding APP1 🚐	. Budget - Applic	ant 2 🔏 🛚 K	1. Budget Applicant 2 / 2. Justilication Applicant 2 / 3. Suc	irces di Fundino	APP Z A 4 EXPER	ierice ( II-2.1 Ap	plic 1
		``							
		\							
		1							
Sou	rces of fun	ding for th	e Applica	nts can on	y be entered into the colored fields				
1			- f AO\	The state of	Strike and the street of the street of the				
(pur	pie for AT	and orang	e for A2).	me data v	vill be automatically transferred to				

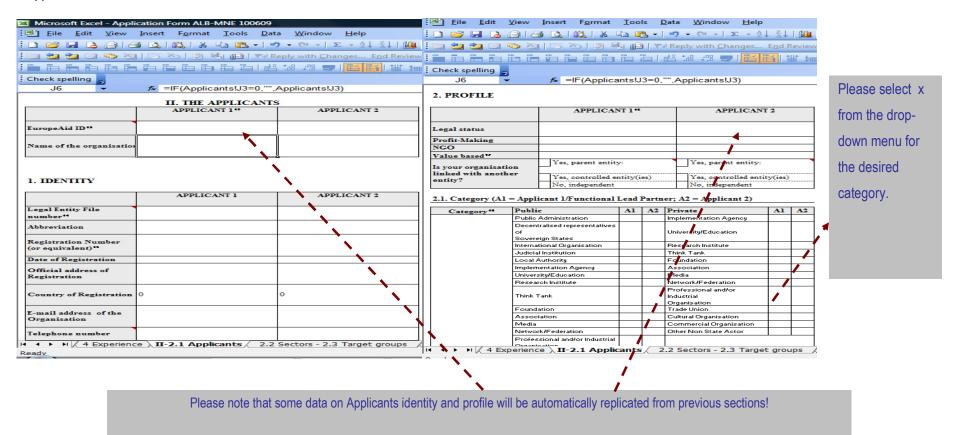
the Cover page!

# 4. Experience



Provide information on the previous experience of similar actions in this sheet. If there is more than one action that you wish to describe, click on the *Add new project* button to generate the new table. Repeat the action as many times as there are projects you will describe.

# **II Applicant**



# 2.2 Sectors – 2.3 Target groups

Geographical area (country or region)

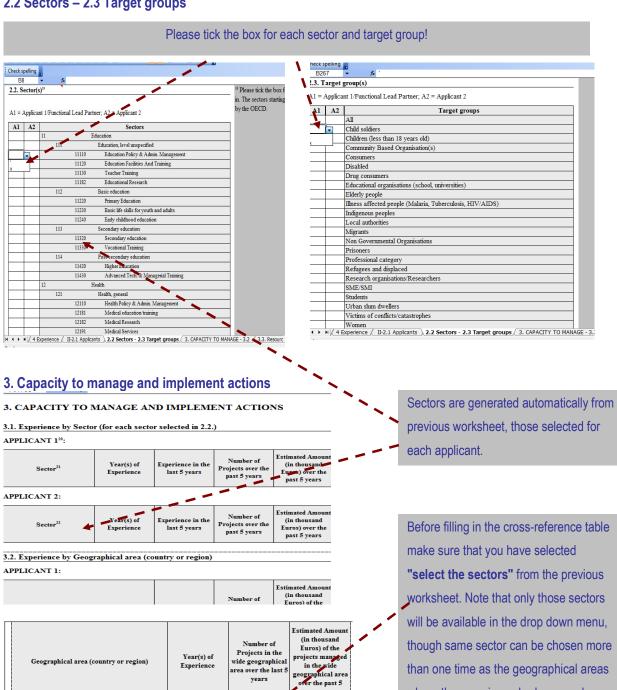
Sector(s)

Sector(s)

APPLICANT 1:

APPLICANT 2:

Cross-reference of experience by Sector and by Geographical area:



area over the last 5

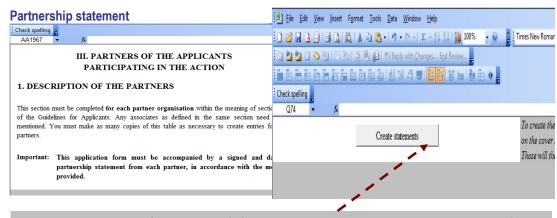
Geographical area(s) (country or region)

Geographical area(s) (country or region)

years

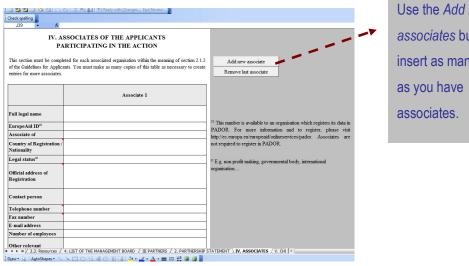
Before filling in the cross-reference table make sure that you have selected "select the sectors" from the previous worksheet. Note that only those sectors will be available in the drop down menu, though same sector can be chosen more than one time as the geographical areas where the experience had occurred might be more than one. Countries available in the drop-down menu are only those that have been selected in the same worksheet above under "Geographical area (country or region)" section.

## **III Partners**



To create the statements first enter the info for all the partners on the cover sheet and then click "Create Statements" button. The Statements will be created thereafter.

## **IV Associates**



Use the Add new associates button to insert as many tables

## **VI Declarations**

J150

# **Declaration by Applicants**



#### VI.B DECLARATION BY APPLICANT 2

The applicant, represented by the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the Applicant 2, in the context of the present call for proposals, representing any partners in the proposed action, hereby declares that

the applicant has the sources of financing and professional competence and qualifications specified in section 2 of the Guidelines for Applicants;

the applicant undertakes to comply with the obligations foreseen in the partnership statement of the grant application form and with the principles of good partnership practice;

the applicant is directly responsible for the preparation, management and implementation of the action with its partners and is not acting as an intermediary;

the applicant and its partners are not in any of the situations excluding them from participating in contracts which are listed in Section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions (available from the following Internet address: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/index\_en.htm. Furthermore, it is recognised and accepted that if we participate in spite of being in any of these situations, we may be excluded from other procedures in accordance with section 2.3.5 of the Practical Guide;

the applicant and each partner (if any) is in a position to deliver immediately, upon request, the supporting documents stipulated under section 2.4 of the Guidelines for Applicants;

the applicant and each partner (if any) are eligible in accordance with the criteria set out under sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines for Applicants:

The declaration is generated automatically, once the information on the applicant is entered on the cover sheet.

# **Partnership Agreement**

#### VI.C PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN APPLICANTS 1 AND 2

1. Subject and scope of the agreement

This partnership agreement is drawn up between the applicants of the project " ("the action") jointly submitted in the framework of the 2nd Call for proposals of the Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Albania-Montenegro. The partnership agreement defines the rules which shall govern the relationship between both applicants during the implementation of the action. By signing the present agreement, both applicants commit themselves to implement the action as one project regardless of the 2 contracts under which it will be implemented.

The present agreement is valid from the signature by both parties. It shall remain in force until completion of the action and the termination of all contractual obligations of both applicants towards the contracting authorities.

3. Designation of the Functional Lead Partner

Applicants of the action agree that applicant '0' shall be the Functional Lead Partner for the action. For the purpose of this Application Form, the Functional Lead Partner is Applicant 1.

4. Obligations of Applicant 1 - Functional Lead Partner

The partnership agreement between Applicants 1 and 2 is generated automatically once the information on two applicants is entered correctly on the cover sheet.

