

Disclaimer: This Quick Reference Guide is intended as useful information for applicants. It does not replace or overrule the criteria or any other conditions contained in the Culture Programme Guide.

The European Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture has selected Australia as one of two Cultural Cooperation partners for 2013, (the other country is Canada). This means that European and Australian cultural organisations can submit joint proposals to take part in projects designed to promote cross-border cultural understanding.

Cooperation Projects aim to help cultural operators from participating European Countries¹ such as theatres, museums, professional associations, research centres, universities, cultural institutes and public authorities to cooperate, so that different sectors can work together and extend their cultural and artistic reach across borders. Previous examples of such projects have ranged from promoting cultural dialogue through fashion, puppetry, and music, to photography festivals, literary projects, theatre and dance projects.

The European Union will co-finance up to half of the project costs to a maximum of €200,000 per project. Projects must involve at least three cultural operators from at least three different participating European countries, together with at least one organisation in Australia. Projects can also involve Canada but no other third countries can be involved.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects

To be eligible, projects must:

- have a duration of not more than 24 months;
- involve a co-ordinator and a minimum of two co-organisers – all drawn from eligible European Countries
- involve cultural cooperation with at least one partner from Australia (although more would be beneficial)
- all participants must sign a *cooperation agreement* which describes the nature of their cooperation;
- the grant request must be no less than EUR 50 000 and no more than EUR 200 000;
- the project application must contain a balanced budget, i.e. one in which expenditure equals receipts, and adhere to the ceiling for co-financing by the European Union, set at 50% of the total *eligible budget*.
- At least half of the activities should take place in Australia
- ***Note that funding will not be given directly to Australian organisations but they must invoice their European Partners for the cost of their activities – this arrangement must be clearly stated in the Cooperation Agreement***

WHO?

Eligible applicants

Applicants must be public or private organisations with legal personality whose main activity is in the cultural field (areas of cultural or creative activity) and whose head office is in one of the countries taking part in the Programme.

Who is a Coordinator, a Co-organiser, an Associated Partner and a Partner in Australia?

- **Coordinator:** a cultural operator from one of the eligible European Countries who undertakes a coordinating role during the implementation of the project. This role involves the overall responsibility for carrying out the action in accordance with the *Grant Agreement*, as well as involvement in the design, implementation and financing of the project. The coordinator acts as the legal co-signatory for the *Grant Agreement*
- **Co-organiser:** a cultural operator from an eligible European country involved in the design and implementation of the project and contributing to its funding. The involvement of each *co-organiser* must be clearly indicated in the application form.

¹ 27 member states + EEA + Albania, Turkey, FYROM, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro

- **Partner:** To be regarded as an Australian partner, a cultural operator must have its legal registered seat in Australia, should participate in the design and implementation of the proposed activities and sign the *cooperation agreement*.

- **Associated Partner:** a cultural operator from either an eligible European country or Australia involved in the implementation of the proposed activities of a project, but not to the same extent and at the same level of participation as a *co-organisier*;. In particular, an *associated partner* is not required to contribute financially to the project; costs incurred by *Associated Partners* are not eligible, unless they are directly paid or refunded by the *coordinator* and/or *co-organisiers*.

HOW?

Submission of applications: On-line application system - An online application system has been set up. Proposals must be submitted by 3 May 2013. 12.00 CEST http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/programme/calendar_en.php using the online application form, which is accessible on the website of the Executive Agency. In addition, the application package must be sent by surface mail by the deadline (date as postmark). The application package has to include the paper copy of the online application form as well as the relevant mandatory annexes. Application packages are not returned at the end of the selection procedure.

MORE

The Culture Programme 2007-2013 Guide is the complete guide for all EC Cultural programmes. The programme under which Australian cultural organisations are eligible for this call is **Strand 1.3.5** (http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/funding/2012/call_strand_135_2012_en.php)

Culture Programme website: www.ec.europa.eu/culture

If you need assistance in preparing your application, contact: EACEA-P5-THIRDCOUNTRIESPROJECTS@ec.europa.eu

A full list of **European Cultural Contact Points** can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/annexes-culture/doc1232_en.htm .

Further information on specific eligibility requirements and application guidelines, please refer to the Programme Guide: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/programme/programme_guide_en.php

Specific instructions for Australian applicants will be available on the Culture Programme website at the end of September 2012. Meanwhile, you may wish to consult the documents applying to 2012 where South Africa is the partner. : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/funding/2012/call_strand_135_2012_en.php

EXAMPLE OF A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT 2012

Mandela 27 years- a cultural experience across the European Union and South Africa

This is a collaboration between EU and South Africa (SA) based on the iconic story of Nelson Mandela and the globally recognised Robben Island Museum.

The project involves a physical display of Mandela's cell housing cultural stories/artefacts and an eCulture platform where navigating around Robben Island brings you to an interactive map showing the cultural events across Europe and South Africa during the 27 years of Mandela's incarceration (1963-1990) plus a serious game about life on the island based on the graphic novel style. The Nelson Mandela Story in Robben Island is the link promoting intercultural dialogue. The display of Mandela's cell including the cultural works will promote interest in the project. The map and the graphic serious game will support the circulation of cultural /artistic works to tens of thousands of young people in the medium they are most familiar with. Crowd sourcing allows cross contribution. This is a true collaboration with SA partners supplying content/building the cultural game and EU partners who are expert in cultural learning/dissemination/serious games allowing the mobility of experts in graphic design/games design/cultural learning and cultural exchange across both regions.

The physical display of Nelson Mandela's cell will be the same dimension as his cell in Robben Island; it will house several photographic displays and three screens showing the cultural platform which takes the form of the plan of Robben Island. When you enter Mandela's Cell you will hear his story, walking down the corridor you encounter a map – as you click on the map pins a cultural event across the EU and SA spring to life. As you go outside to the prison yard you can play the serious game – a dark graphic novel about his time at Robben Island. A lecture series and teacher notes will be produced. Mandela27 will be displayed in UK, SA, Sweden and Belgium, the eCulture platform has a global reach and will be live 3 years after the end of the project.

More information at http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/funding/2012/selection/selection_strand_135_2012_en.php