

**Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 28 November 2023, Min-BuZa.2023.20170-11, amending the Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 24 May 2023, no. Min-BuZa.2023.15459-14, laying down administrative rules and a ceiling for grants awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grant Regulations 2006 (Amendment of grant ceiling for 2023 and first round in 2024 of the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028).**

The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,

Having regard to article 6 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grants Decree;

Having regard to articles 5.1 and 7.2 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grant Regulations 2006.

Orders:

**ARTICLE I**

The order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 24 May 2023, no. Min-BuZa.2023.15459-14, laying down administrative rules and a ceiling for grants awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grant Regulations 2006 (Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028)<sup>1</sup> is amended as follows:

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Article 2 is amended as follows:

**Article 2**

1. In paragraph 1: 'under the Grant Programme' is amended to read 'in the first round of the Grant Programme'.
2. Paragraph 2 is renumbered as paragraph 4 and the following two new paragraphs are inserted:
  2. Grant applications in the second round of the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 may be submitted from 12.00 CET on 15 January 2024 until 15.00 CET on 17 June 2024.
  3. Applications for grants in subsequent rounds of the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 can be submitted during a time period to be announced at a later date.

B

Article 3 is amended as follows:

**Article 3**

1. With regard to applications as referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, a ceiling of €3.1 million for regular impact cluster projects and €3.7 million for impact cluster projects as part of a combination track applies to grants awarded under the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 from the date on which this Order comes into force up to and including 31 December 2028.
2. With regard to applications as referred to in article 2, paragraph 2, a ceiling of €2 million for regular impact cluster projects and €2 million for impact cluster projects as part of a

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<sup>1</sup> Government Gazette 2023, no. 15513.

combination track applies to grants awarded under the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 from 1 January 2024 up to and including 31 December 2028.

3. A ceiling will be announced at a later date for grants under the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 with regard to applications as referred to in article 2, paragraph 3.

C

In the annexe, the second paragraph of Section 4.4 is amended as follows:

As it takes six weeks to process a quick scan, after which it must be possible to adapt the project on the basis of any advice that is issued, the quick scan must be submitted at least eight weeks before the latest application date for a funding round.

## **ARTICLE II**

This Order enters into force from the day after the date of publication of the Government Gazette in which it appears.

This Order and the explanatory notes will be published in the Government Gazette.

The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,  
legally represented in this matter by

S. Collet

Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

In support of impact clusters, the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation has decided to provide additional funds to the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters 2023-2028 for the remainder of 2023.<sup>2</sup> Interest in the Grant Programme for Impact Clusters has exceeded what was anticipated at the time of its first publication. In order to provide grants for additional worthwhile projects, the grant ceiling in this grant programme is raised by €1.1 million to €3.1 million for regular impact cluster projects and by €1.7 million to €3.7 million for impact cluster projects as part of a combination track.

The application period and grant ceiling for the first period of 2024 will be as follows: €2 million for regular impact cluster projects and €2 million for impact cluster projects as part of a combination track.

Applications submitted prior to the date when this decision enters into force and on which no decision has yet been taken will be considered as applications for grants under the grant ceiling for 2023, as amended in this order.

The deadline for submitting quick scans is amended from six weeks before the final application date for a round to eight weeks before the final application date. This is expected to benefit the quality of the applications.

The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation  
legally represented in this matter by

S. Collet  
Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation

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<sup>2</sup> Government Gazette 2023, no. 15513.