

Disclosure

Financial support for the “Middle East Quick-Starter Package I”

In 2019 German municipalities will be able to apply for financial support, as part of the “Middle East Quick-Starter Package I”, for the establishment and/or revival of partnership cooperation with host communities of Syrian refugees in the Middle East. Financial support comes from Engagement Global with its Service Agency Communities in One World (EG/SKEW) on behalf of and at the expense of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The “Middle East Quick-Starter Package I” is aimed at German municipalities and municipal companies which are already in project or municipal partnerships with host communities of Syrian refugees in the Middle East or which intend to found new project partnerships.

The objective of the quick-starter package is to encourage the commitment of German municipalities to development with host communities of Syrian refugees in the Middle East. Partnerships between German municipalities and host communities in the region are vital for this. The package focuses on the development and intensification of bilateral project partnerships. In project partnerships, municipalities from Germany and partner countries develop project ideas about core municipal themes and sustainable development and then implement them jointly.

With the “Middle East Quick-Starter Package I”, municipalities from Germany and partner countries are supported in initiating and establishing project partnerships. With the help of the quick-starter package, cooperation structures can be established or solidified, project ideas can be developed jointly, smaller development policy undertakings can be implemented, the development policy discussion and commitment in both communities can be revitalised and the networking of relevant actors can be supported. This contributes towards the strengthening and sustainable development of the communities involved.

Funding through the “Middle East Quick-Starter Package I” is subject to the availability of budgetary resources.

Application guidelines

The following guidelines should be considered for project planning and subsequent implementation:

1. Who can submit applications?

German municipal administrations and companies, municipal policy bodies and municipal associations and district administrations are all eligible to apply.

2. Which themes do the projects need to address?

The only projects eligible for grants are those which concern municipal development policy. Municipal development policy is defined as the sum of resources and measures employed or undertaken by municipalities in order to promote global sustainable development in partner municipalities in developing countries.

3. Which measures are eligible for grants?

Measures eligible for grants in the context include:

- Fact-finding visits: the identification of joint objectives and interests, the planning of joint projects as well as further action must be given priority for the intended partnership.
- Meeting and delegation visits: only visits of a maximum of ten people who have been demonstrably and actively involved (as input providers visible on the agenda or as authors of relevant professional documents) in the professional exchanges are funded. Exclusively eligible for funding are travel periods that are demonstrably occupied with the respective development policy contents of the meeting.
- Work meetings/project planning workshops in the German or partner municipality (thematic) in the Middle East.
- Partnership conferences in the German or partner municipality in the Middle East.
- Feasibility studies or needs analyses related to the project undertaking.
- Expert seminars in the German or partner municipality in the Middle East.
- Expert short-term applications by experts in consulting services and know-how transfer in the partner municipality in the Middle East.
- Sitting in on lectures by administrative staff from the partner municipality.
- Qualification measures (consulting, intercultural dialogue and regional studies).
- Municipal information work in Germany (public and education work through the project partnership and/or the partner municipality/region).

4. What other formal guidelines should be considered?

- Projects can be requested on an ongoing basis. The maximum term is 12 months. The measures must be implemented throughout the year.
- The size of the grant must be between **10,000** and **50,000** euros. The grant is granted as full financing.
- Expenditure eligible for grants include:
 - Costs for accommodation, provisioning and travel
 - Fee expenditure
 - Administrative expenditure

In addition, a flat-rate fee for administrative costs amounting to a maximum of 7% of the total amount eligible to be subsidised can be requested.

It is possible to transfer up to one third of the total expenditure eligible to be subsidised to domestic and foreign cooperation partners for the implementation of the project. These include, in particular, partner municipalities in host countries of Syrian refugees in the Middle East as well as civil society organisations (e.g. partnership associations).

All other content and formal details about financial support can be found in our pamphlet at:

<https://www.initiative-nahost.de/en/middle-east-quick-starter-package-i.html>

Contact persons and deadlines

If you are interested, you can already submit an application via the form available on the website. The application must arrive electronically and by post to the address below complete with the signature of an authorised signatory.

Please note that applications for financial support through the Middle East Quick-Starter Package I must have been received by EG/SKEW at least **eight weeks before the start of the first planned measure** (date of receipt applies).

EG/SKEW will review the applications and approve the fulfilment of grant criteria in the order in which they are received. There is no entitlement for funding.

We are happy to provide consultation in advance of the application by telephone or e-mail. Application documents are requested electronically and additionally by post to the following address:

By post: Engagement Global gGmbH
Service Agency Communities in One World
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