







Investment Grant Scheme - LOT 1

Application Guidelines







Key Definitions

- Kosovo Business Registration Agency (KBRA) The institution responsible for the registration and management of business data in Kosovo.
- Food and Veterinary Agency (FVA) The institution responsible for food control and safety, animal health protection, and veterinary supervision in Kosovo.
- Agency for Agricultural Development (AAD) The institution responsible for implementing support programs in agriculture and rural development, including the administration of subsidies and grants for farmers and agricultural enterprises.
- Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK) The authority responsible for tax collection and implementation of tax policies in Kosovo.
- Agrotourism A form of tourism developed on farms or agricultural properties, where visitors engage in agricultural activities, learn about rural traditions, and experience rural life. The goal is to offer an educational and authentic experience of life and work in agriculture.
- Applicant A term referring to any natural or legal person submitting an application under this support scheme. In this document, the term "applicant" is used in a gender-neutral way and applies equally to women and men, in line with principles of gender equality and inclusion.
- Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) Plants used for medicinal, pharmaceutical, or aromatic purposes, which may be wild-collected or cultivated.
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) The German agency for international development cooperation.
- Farm An agricultural production unit, in the technical and economic sense, managed by a farmer, where agricultural and rural activities are carried out.
 Farms must be registered in the Farmer Registry and have a Farm Identification Number (FIN).
- Young Farmer A natural person engaged in agricultural activities who is under the age of 40 at the time of application submission.
- HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) A food safety system that helps identify and control risks during food production and processing.
- ISO (International Organization for Standardization) An international system of standards that ensures quality and safety in products and processes managed in a controlled manner.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) The institution responsible for developing and implementing policies in the agriculture and rural development sector in Kosovo.
- Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) According to the Law on Foreign Investments (Law No. 04/L-220):
 - Micro-enterprises: up to 9 employees.
 - Small enterprises: from 10 to 49 employees.

- Farm Identification Number (FIN) A unique number identifying a farm, issued after registration in the Farmer Registry.
- Non-wood Forest Products (NWFPs) Products derived from forests that do not include wood. These include mushrooms, forest fruits, wild medicinal and aromatic plants, honey, humus, peat, gravel, sand, soil, game meat, and fish.
- Farmer Registry The official list managed by AAD (Agency for Agricultural Development), where all farmers engaged in agriculture or rural development are registered. Registration is mandatory to benefit from support schemes and to obtain a FIN.

1. General information on the Investment Grant Scheme

In line with Rural Development Policy, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have entered into an agreement for the implementation of the support program: "Support for the Sustainable Development of the Agricultural Sector in Rural Areas through the Diversification of Activities" (see: Law No. 08/L-252, published in the National Gazette on December 8th, 2023). The support program will be implemented by the GIZ "Entrepreneurship Promotion" project.

1.1 Primary aim of the Investment Grant Scheme

The primary aim of the program is supporting sustainable rural economic development through the diversification of activities in rural areas, as outlined under Measure 7 (Farm Diversification and Business Development) in accordance with National Program for Agriculture and Rural Development 2023-27 of the MAFRD. The intended outcomes include the creation of new jobs, income generation, stimulation of the local economy, promotion of gender equality, fostering innovation, and enhancing environmental sustainability, in rural areas, with a focus on mountainous and border regions of Kosovo.

2. LOT 1 – Application Guidelines 2.1 Supported subsectors

LOT 1 of the Investment Grant Scheme targets farmers, members of farm households, individuals, start-ups and micro and small enterprises (MSEs) who are already operating or plan to start economic activities in the following sub sectors:

701 Non-wood forest products (NWFP) including medicinal and aromatic plants (MAP), mushrooms and ornamental plants

702 Agritourism

703 Processing of agricultural products on farm and private households

704 Honey production

705Non-agricultural activities

706 Poultry growing for egg and meat production

707 Aquaculture

2.2 Main objective

The main objective of LOT 1 is to foster diversified economic activities within the seven selected sub sectors mentioned above. It targets small scale projects with a low entry threshold particularly for newcomers to diversified economic activities who have limited financial sources, experiences, and skills. Priority is given to women, youth and minority groups. In addition, LOT 1 aims to support viable economic activities, sustainable use of natural resources, creation of new jobs in rural areas and generating public benefits for the rural community.

The following information relates to the completion of the full application for investment projects under LOT 1.

2.3 Application package for LOT 1

All information and forms are part of the application package which consists of:

- Application guidelines for Investment Grant Scheme LOT 1
- Annex 1: Application form LOT 1
- Annex 2: Supporting documents
- Annex 3: Declarations

2.4 Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants under LOT 1 include:

- **1. Individuals** (natural persons) Individuals who are permanent residents of a rural area are eligible to apply. If selected as beneficiary, depending on activity, they must register in the Kosovo Business Registration Agency (**KBRA**), with indication of the business activity for which it is applying or in Farmers Register, latest before handover of equipment. Farmers that are not registered and don't have a Farm Identification Number (FIN), should apply in this category.
- **2.** Registered farmers and members of private households- according to the definition of Law No. 08/L-072 on Agriculture and Rural Development. Farmers must be registered in Farmers Register and have a FIN certificate.

3. Enterprises - according to Law No. 04/L-220 For Foreign Investments. O. Eligible are start-ups (not older than 5 years), micro or small enterprises. The enterprise must be registered in the Business Registration Agency of Kosovo (**KBRA**), with indication of the business activity for which it is applying.

Remark: For the purposes of this program, the term " private households " refers to all members who utilize the same agricultural assets (land, machinery, storage, livestock, barns, and accompanying facilities). A private households my must have only one FIN. If more than one NIF is encountered within a private households, the application will be rejected.

2.5 General eligibility criteria

- All applicants must prove that they have no criminal or corruption related convictions.
- All applicants must declare no liabilities against MAFRD /Agriculture Development Agency
- All applicants must prove ownership or lease of the planned investment location.
 - In case of ownership, the applicants must submit the property certificate / title deed and copy of the site plan. In case of a family property, applicant must declare that all inheriting family members, agree to the use of the property as per project proposal.
 - If the property where the investment is to be made is under co-ownership, the applicant must declare that co-owners, agree to the use of the property as per project proposal.
 - In case the property is leased, a notarized lease agreement must be provided for a period of at least three (3) years, starting from the year of application.
- If the applicant is an individual (natural person), they must be over 18 years old but not older than 65 years on the day of application. In the case of a legal entity, this criterion does not apply.
- If the applicant is an individual (natural person), they must register in the **KBRA** or Farm Registration System of Kosovo, depending on the relevant field of economic activity, latest before the date of handover of equipment.
- If the applicant is an individual, they must prove that obligations on property tax are settled or regulated.
- If applicant is a legal person, they must prove that they settled or regulated their tax obligations, including income tax, property tax and other applicable taxes.
- If the applicant is a registered farmer, with a FIN, they are not required to get registered at KBRA, for the purpose of this call.
- If the applicant is a micro & small enterprise, and have declared they have employees, they should prove paid contribution are made in the last six (6) months.
- All beneficiaries who have declared in their business plan that they will create new jobs and have therefore earned points during the assessment must create them and prove it by paying pension contributions and payroll taxes starting latest a month before hand over of machinery and equipment. Beneficiaries are obliged to keep these jobs filled with full-time employees for three (3) years, the duration of the monitoring period.
- The investments (equipment, machinery etc.) under this project proposal should not have double funding from other donors or institutions.
- The investment must be carried out in rural areas. According to the definition in the Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (2022-2028), cities of Prishtinë/ Prština, Prizren, Gjilan/ Gnjilane, Pejë/ Peč, Mitrovicë/ Mitrovica, Ferizaj/ Uroševac and Gjakovë/ Djakovica are classified as urban areas, and the rest of the territory is considered rural.

- Priority is given to projects in mountainous areas as defined in the Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (2022-2028) and as presented in the National Program for Agriculture and Rural Development 2023–2027 Annex 3.
- All beneficiaries of rural development projects are required to maintain their investments, as approved in the project, for three (3) years following project implementation, which corresponds to the monitoring period. If the investments are not maintained, the beneficiary is obligated to return the equipment or the financial amount equal to the value of the equipment as per the project/
- Applicants may receive only one grant per project under this Investment Grant Scheme.

2.6 Common eligible and non-eligible investments

To be noticed

The grant amount is calculated based on the eligible investments for the project.

No cash or cash equivalent grants will be provided to the applicants. Equipment will be purchased by the contracting authority and provided to beneficiaries.

2.6.1 Eligible investments

These are the categories of investments that can be supported through the grant:

- New equipment and machinery including IT hardware and software related to the approved investment project.
- Packaging and labelling machines for product presentation.
- Investments in the generation of renewable energy, specifically small-scale, off-grid solar photovoltaic systems (including panels, inverters, batteries, and related installation equipment), for example solar thermal systems for water heating.
- Investment waste management (e.g. recycling, composting,)

2.6.2 Non-eligible investments

The following types of investments will not be supported:

- Construction, extension, and renovation works, including construction material and labour
- Purchase of land and existing buildings
- Purchase of second-hand equipment and machinery
- Purchase of agricultural production rights, animals, annual plants and their planting
- Expenditures incurred by the applicant
- Running costs of farm / business such as agricultural input, material, salaries, maintenance work, utilities, rental costs.
- Costs which are not related to the investment project
- Costs for investment items to replace items grant-aided in the previous fice(5) years
- Interest rates, taxes, custom duties, licenses, costs from exchange rates from foreign currency (charges and exchange losses)
- Contribution in kind (work input of applicant, provided material)
- Investments made prior to signing of contract with contracting authority.

2.7 Specific eligibility criteria and eligible investments per subsector

In addition to general eligibility criteria, applicants must comply with the specific eligibility criteria defined for each sub-sector, as presented below.

2.7.1 Non-wood forest products (NWFP), medicinal & aromatic plants (MAP), mushrooms dhe ornamental plants

The support focuses on improved picking

practices, collection, storage and distribution of NWFP and wild MAP. The quality of cultivated MAP, mushrooms and ornamental plants should be improved. Organic production is prioritised.

2.7.1.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSEs.
- Applicants must hold a valid license for the collection of NWFPs (including wild MAPs), issued by the Forestry Department under the MAFRD. If they are not licensed at the time of application, they must have initiated the licensing procedure no later than the date of equipment delivery.
- If the application concerns organic products, applicants must possess a valid certificate for organic production.

2.7.1.2 Specific eligible investments

- Cultivation & harvesting equipment for cultivated MAP, mushrooms, ornamental plants
- Picking equipment for NWFP (like fruit picking tools, telescopic high-altitude scissors).
- Baskets for carrying harvested products.
- Equipment for weighing, cutting, grinding, shredding, grading, sorting, drying of harvested products (controlled temperature, humidity).
- Purchase of laboratory equipment for analysing.
- Containers for transport to collection points.
- Equipment for pasteurization and sterilization
- Storage equipment (shelves, metal constructions, wooden pallets, loading and unloading equipment, etc.)
- Equipment for quality monitoring, control systems, and traceability of reception, storage, processing, packaging, and distribution, including laboratory equipment and instruments for analysis (excluding glassware and small lab tools)
- Computer equipment and software, including sensors (only those directly connected to eligible equipment)

2.7.2 Agritourism

The support aims to diversify farm-based activities with agritourism services such as accommodation, food and beverage services (e.g., catering, bistro), and recreational activities. Connection to agriculture by own farming activities, or purchase of local farm products for catering of guests and / or selling to visitors will be prioritized.

2.7.2.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSFs
- Applicants must be registered in the Central Register of Registered or approved establishments at the FVA or proof of initiated registration process, no later than the equipment handover date.

2.7.2.2 Specific eligible investments

- Equipment for guest rooms (beds, cupboard, tables, chairs, carpets), sanitary equipment, reception.
- Equipment and machinery for kitchen & other food and beverage infrastructure.
- Furniture for small restaurants, degustation (tasting), and shop at the farm level.
- Equipment and machinery for recreational activities at the farm level.

2.7.3 Processing of agricultural products on farm and private households

The support aims to promote the production of traditional and value-added food products that are processed from agricultural raw materials sourced from local and regional areas within Kosovo.

2.7.3.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSEs.
- Eligible activities are processing of primary agricultural raw material from livestock / meat, milk (cow, sheep, goat etc.), fruits including soft fruits, grape and vegetables, crops, cereals, from own agricultural production or purchased from local and regional farmers. In addition, processing of dough-based products, including various types of baked goods and traditional sweets activities are also eligible.
- Applicants must be registered in the Central Register of Registered or approved establishments at the FVA or proof of initiated registration process, no later than the equipment handover date.
- In the case of grape processing, applicants must be registered in the Kosovo Wine Register, or provide proof of initiated registration procedures no later than the equipment handover date.

2.7.3.2 Specific eligible investments

- Equipment for sausage and ham production, fresh meat handling, and vacuum packaging.
- Machinery for processing for the processing of milk into dairy products such as, cheese, yogurt, cream, butter, and other value-added or fermented dairy products. Includes pasteurizers, homogenizers, storage tanks, separators, cheese-making tools, fermentation tanks, mobile milk processing units and a mini trailer for transporting mobile milk processing units.
- Equipment for processing fruits into juices, marmalades, jams, vinegar, wine, and alcoholic beverages. Includes crushers, shredders, presses, pasteurizers, filters, fermentation and distillation tanks.
- Equipment for producing dried products, spices, and herbal goods from fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Includes solar, air, or mechanical dryers, cutting and slicing machines, sorting equipment, grinders or mills, and sieves.
- Equipment for tea blending, extract and preparation production, and tea packaging, including tea bag packaging machines.

- Equipment for cleaning, washing, sorting, and packaging of vegetables, along with associated storage facilities.
- Equipment for producing bread, pastries, cookies, and cakes. Includes graining equipment, mixers, pots, ovens, weighing equipments, cake pans, and cooling systems.
- Small-scale equipment and furnishings for direct marketing at farms or private households, such as shelves, refrigerators, and tables.
- Machinery for processing cereals, nuts, and legumes into value-added products.
- Cold storage equipment, such as refrigerators and freezers, for preserving product quality.
- Sanitation and cleaning systems to maintain hygiene and food safety.
- Computer hardware, software, and sensors (only those directly connected to eligible equipment) for process automation, quality control, and data management.

2.7.4 Honey production

The support targets the improvement of honey production in rural areas to foster its productivity. Support is intended for both beginner beekeepers and experienced ones who aim to expand or improve their activities in the field of beekeeping.

2.7.4.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSEs.
- Applicants must be registered in the Central Register of Registered or approved establishments at the FVA or proof of initiated registration process, no later than the equipment handover date.

2.7.4.2 Specific eligible investments

- Beehives with inventory (beehives with antivaro floors).
- Handling equipment (smoker, brush), quality control equipment
- Honey extraction equipment (centrifuge, opening of honeycomb)
- Wax melter for combs
- Filling and storage equipment
- Small selling points on farm, private house, markets
- Treatment equipment against bee diseases
- Equipment to produce honey side-products (propolis, gelee royal-bee milk)
- Equipment for royal jelly extraction and queen rearing, including a complete set of grafting needles, complete set of spatulas for royal jelly extraction, temperature measuring device, humidity measuring device, larva rearing device, cages for queen transport, mating nucs (no more than 100 units), special hives for queen mating (no more than 100 units), special transport refrigerator, deep-freeze refrigerator, incubator).

2.7.5 Non-agricultural activities

The support focuses on enhancing traditional handcrafts in rural areas by applying new technical equipment, using materials from the region and offering services for agriculture and rural population.

2.7.5.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSEs.
- The following are eligible non-agricultural activities:
 - Processing and production of leather, wool, wood, metal, paper/cardboard, stone, pottery/ceramics, and textile-based products
 - Production of humus
 - Products and services related to the eligible sub-sectors in this call

2.7.5.2 Specific eligible investments

- Technical equipment for the production and processing of leather, wood, stone, metal, sheep wool, glass, potter's clay, textile, and paper /cardboard products
- Technical equipment to produce humus
- Equipment and materials for selling point for products
- Equipment for agricultural machinery repair and maintenance services.
- Equipment for storage, distribution
- Computer equipment and software, including sensors (only those connected to eligible equipment)
- Equipment for producing of items related to the eligible sub-sectors in this call.

2.7.6 Poultry growing for eggs / meat production

The focus is on small-scale poultry farming for meat and egg production, which presents growing potential in the local market. Support aims to improve productivity, ensure food safety, and promote animal welfare standards.

2.7.6.1 Specific eligibility criteria

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, MSEs.
- Applicants must be registered in the Central Register of Registered or approved establishments at the FVA or proof of initiated registration process, no later than the equipment handover date.

2.7.6.2 Specific eligible investments

- Fences for free range poultry keeping.
- Nesting boxes, and mobile houses.
- Small incubators in accordance with the production capacity.
- Drinking water bowls.
- Food bowls.
- Equipment for cleaning, sorting, packaging of eggs.
- Equipment for manure removal, handling and storage.

2.7.7 Aquaculture

2.7.7.1 Specific eligibility criteria

The focus is in supporting small-scale freshwater fish farming as a valuable opportunity for diversifying income among rural households and small enterprises. Support may include

essential equipment and tools required to ensure the quality, hygiene, and sustainability of fish production.

- Eligible applicants are individuals, farmers, members of farm households, start-ups, micro and small enterprises
- Applicants must be registered in the Central Register of Registered or Approved Establishments at the FVA or proof of initiated registration process, no later than the equipment handover date.
- Applicants must hold a valid license for aquaculture activities / fish farming issued by the MAFRD depending on their production capacity. If they are not licensed at the time of application, they must have initiated the licencing process, no later than the equipment handover date.

2.7.7.2 Specific eligible investments

- Equipment for water aeration, oxygenation, and monitoring (including air injectors, oxygen sensors, temperature and pH meters, main channel pumps, and side channel pumps).
- Equipment for fish hatchery and breeding/incubation (including tanks or reservoirs for larvae and fingerlings).
- Equipment for fish grading and transport pumps within the farm.
- Equipment for fish feeding.
- Equipment for the transport of live fish (barrel/tanks, oxygen cylinders, and additional transport equipment).
- Equipment for water disinfection, filtration, and purification, including water pumps, protein skimmers or foam fractionators (including valves, pipes, and related devices).
- Equipment for the storage of fresh fish, ice production machines, cooling tanks (containers, pallets, trailers, refrigerated trailers), including auxiliary equipment for the storage of feed, additives, and for handling, loading, and unloading (e.g. forklifts, pallets, conveyor belt systems, weighing equipment)
- Equipment for fish slaughtering and cleaning, handling, disposal, storage, and treatment of waste
- Equipment for quality monitoring systems, control, and traceability related to farming, storage, and distribution, as well as computer equipment and software, including sensors (only those connected to eligible equipment)

2.8 Financial conditions

2.8.1 Purchase of eligible equipment

The equipment and machinery requested by the applicant, as part of the investment project will be purchased and handed over by the contracting authority after the contract is signed between contracting authority and beneficiary.

2.8.2 Minimum and maximum investment value (in EUR)

- The minimum amount of eligible project investments costs is 1,500 EUR.
- The maximum amount of eligible project investments costs is 5,000 EUR.

2.8.3 Aid intensity

Aid intensity is a maximum of 100 % of eligible project investment costs

2.8.4 Duration of the investment project

Duration of the investment project can be maximum six (6) months.

2.9 Procedure for application submission

2.9.1 Call for applications

The call for applications is published at the MAFRD's and AAD's website and social media, as well as GIZ social media. Potential beneficiaries are invited to submit their applications.

2.9.2 Application period and submission methods

The call for applications will be open for (2) two months. The application period will be announced separately.

During this period, the application form along with all required documents must be submitted electronically via the following link: https://rural-development-kosovo.grantplatform.com/ Alternatively, applicants may submit a hard copy (printed) of the full application package to the respective municipality's Officer for Agriculture and Rural Development. The forms must be completed electronically (on a computer) and not handwritten.

2.9.3 Full application package

The applicant must submit the complete application package, which includes:

- Application form (see Annex 01)
- Supporting documents (see Annex 02)
- Declarations (see Annex 03)

All documents must be signed.

2.9.4 Supporting documents

Supporting documents are required to prove the eligibility of your application and compliance with the defined common and specific eligibility criteria (see the list of supporting documents in Annex 02).

2.9.5 Declarations

Declarations are pre-prepared; please read them carefully. The acceptance and signature of the declarations is mandatory for further processing of your application. (see Annex 03 of this application guideline).

2.9.6 Application development

Applicants can take part in consultation meetings free of charge to prepare their applications. Dates and locations for the consultation meetings will be announced separately.

2.9.7 Application processing

The submitted application file including all required documents and information undergoes following processing and control steps

- i) Completeness check
- ii) Eligibility check
- iii) On-the-spot control
- iv) Ranking of applications
- v) Selection of beneficiaries

i) Completeness check

All submitted documents of the application package are checked regarding their completeness. In case of small omissions, the missing information and documents, will be requested in writing from the applicant. Examples of minor omissions include:

- Application is missing some data or document(s)
- Signature on declarations is missing
- Arithmetical errors
- Other similar cases.

The applicant is given up to (five) 5 working days to submit the missing document(s) and information. In case the deadline is not met, or documents and information are not delivered as requested, the application is rejected.

The application is rejected without requesting submission/ resubmission of documents in case of major omissions such as (examples):

- Project does not comply with the sub sectors of LOT 1
- Application is submitted after the announced deadlines
- Missing application form

ii) Eligibility check

The eligibility check aims at determining the compliance of the application with the eligibility criteria for financing such as, eligible beneficiaries, general and specific eligibility criteria, signed declaration, eligible investments and other criteria, based on the application guidelines package.

iii) On-the-spot control on project site

The control is announced in advance when an controller will visit your project site. The on-the spot control is carried out before ranking of the application.

iv) Ranking of application

Applications which have passed positive completeness and eligibility checks, as well as a positive report from the on-the-spot control undergo the ranking process. For this purpose, a set of selection criteria and attributed scores are defined (see table 01 below). The applications are ranked according to the achieved scores. The applications with highest scores are selected for the grant award. For the promotion of a result orientated approach a minimum threshold of 50 scores is set. Applications below 50 scores are not eligible.

Table 01: Selection criteria

	Selection criteria	Scores
1	The project strengthens economic sustainability	15
2	The project creates new job (s) and/or maintains jobs	15
3	The project invests in compliance with minimal national standards (i.e., food safety, environment etc.)	15
4	The project considers sustainable use of natural resources (water reuse, recycling or upcycling of waste, renewable energy for own consumption, etc.)	15
5	The project is in mountainous area	15
6	Applicant is young farmer or entrepreneur (under 40 years of age at the time of submission of application)	10
7	Applicant is a female	10
8	Applicant belongs to a minority group	5
	Total scores	100

vi) Selection of beneficiaries

After the ranking of the applications the successful applicants-grant beneficiaries are selected, and contracting procedures begin.

a. Other issues

2.10.1 Notification on decision of the application

Applicants will be informed in writing on the decision of the contracting authority concerning their application; In case of positive assessment / decision the applicants will be invited to sign the grant agreement and, in case of rejection, the contracting authority informs them on the reasons for the negative decision.

2.10.2 Complaints

Applicants can submit their written complaints directly toep.kosovo@giz.de within eight (8) working days starting from the date of issuing the notification on the rejection of the application. The complaint should state why the applicant believes that the decision on the rejection is not correct, whether there is an indication of an error or irregularity during the award process. After reassessment of the complaint file GIZ will reply in writing.

2.10.3 Visibility

Each beneficiary is required to place a highly visible plaque indicating that the investment has been co-financed by the Project "Support for the Sustainable Development of the Agricultural Sector in Rural Areas through the Diversification of Activities" with financial support from the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit. Instructions regarding the size, font, logo will be provided by the contracting authority.

2.10.4 Final Remark

The contracting authority shall not bear any costs and expenses incurred by any applicant during the competition and shall retain right to accept or refuse completely any offer, annul, or repeat the procedure at any time before the execution of a contract, holding at the same time no liability towards the applicants, and shall have no responsibility to provide reasons for such decision.