

Annex A Consortium Agreement Approach

An overview and suggested approach for Consortium Members

Introduction

The Consortium Agreement is a private agreement between all partners involved in a collaborative grant application (the Consortium Members), to set out the rights and obligations amongst themselves. It does not involve the funding authority (e.g. European Commission). It should complement the Grant Agreement issued by the funding authority and must not contain any provision contrary to it.

This document is designed to:

- inform Members about the Consortium Agreement
- highlight key areas for discussion and agreement
- set the intention of all Consortium Members to work together to finalise the Consortium Agreement in a timely and friendly manner

Getting agreement at the proposal writing stage

Agreement must be reached on the key elements of the project in order for the partners to be willing to sign the Consortium Agreement. Much of this agreement will be reached during the idea-tion, preparation, development and drafting of the EU Grant Application. Impact Funding Europe (IFE) will make sure to facilitate discussions about the key elements of the Consortium Agreement during the proposal writing stage to make sure all partners are happy with the final version and that there should be no barriers or conflicts when it comes to signing the Consortium Agreement.

What is contained in a Consortium Agreement?

A [Consortium Agreement](#) refers to the internal organisation of the consortium. Depending on the area or sector of each project and of the grade of technical complexity involved, the Consortium Agreement might generally contain the following:

- provisions on the governance structure of the consortium;
- technical provisions (e.g. the tasks of each party and the project schedule);
- financial provisions (e.g. the distribution of the Consortium Members' financial contribution, the financial plan, etc);
- provisions regarding IPR and related issues such as dissemination, use and accessibility of the results, confidentiality, as well as arrangements on the settlement of disputes and liability.

Further information can be found on the [EU IPR Helpdesk](#) website.

Setting intentions early

Given that it is a requirement for all members of the consortium that wish to participate in the successful EU Grant Funded Project (and therefore receive funding), it is sensible to commit to getting broad agreement on the Consortium Agreement early. At this stage, an early awareness of the key requirements and a statement of intent to find agreement is advisable.