



Learn about the novelties of the Regional Challenge Fund!

Launch of the RCF Procurements

Procurement section



The RCF Fund Management Unit (FMU) launched recently a dedicated **procurement section** and published the first tenders for which the relevant documentation can be accessed via the **RCF webpage**.

An important step in the RCF project when providing benefits for its beneficiaries is to procure the best quality goods for the best value to accomplish advanced VET education.

RCF Procurement page provides free electronic access to all publicly available calls for tenders, award notifications, and other related procurement documentation published by the FMU.

The FMU oversees the procurement of goods, works, and services in compliance with the **KfW Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Plant, Goods and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partners**. These guidelines ensure that funds are used solely for the project's intended purpose and emphasize efficient project implementation. It is widely recognized that transparent public spending is crucial for good governance and project sustainability.



Coming up in April and May: National Award Ceremonies

During April and May, the RCF will award commitment letters to the most successful applicants from the 2nd call. Award ceremonies are conducted with the representatives of the Chamber Investment Forum of WB6 and member chambers of commerce, German embassies, KfW, ministries of education, VET agencies, and other partners.

Follow RCF on social media to learn more about the awarded VET projects and institutions in the region!

RCF awarded grants to 6 winning consortia in Kosovo and to 5 winning consortia in Albania

The Regional Challenge Fund (RCF) organised the Second National Grant Award Ceremony to share the results of the second call and to award the grants to the 6 winning consortia on April 4th, in Prishtina, Kosovo, and to 5 winning consortia on April 6th in Tirana, Albania.

The Award Ceremony gathered the officials from the Western Balkans 6 Chamber Investment Forum, German Embassy, KfW, Swiss Development & Cooperation, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Regional Challenge Fund, and the awarded consortia from Kosovo and Albania.


Please read more about the Second National Grant Award Ceremonies here:

Kosovo

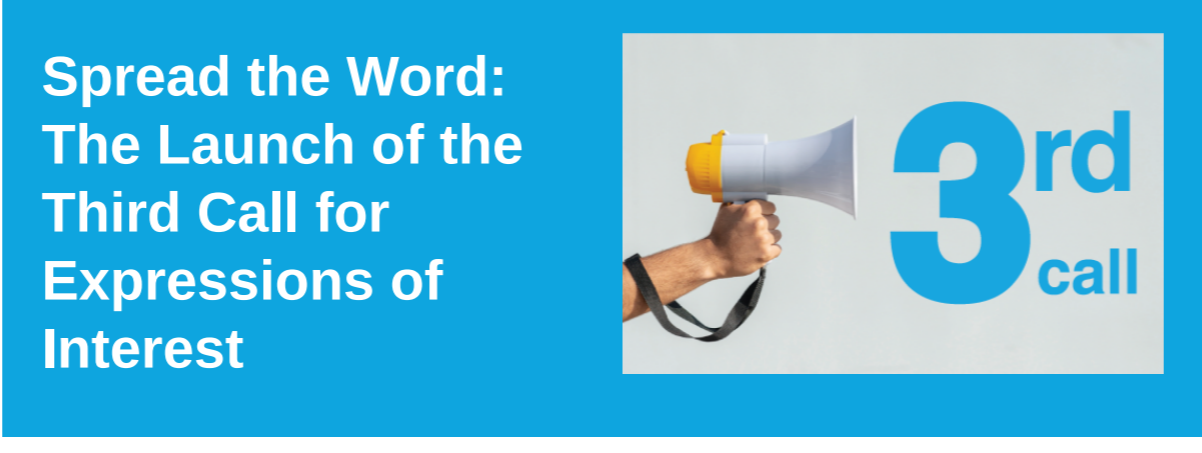


[Read more](#)

Albania



[Read more](#)



Spread the Word: The Launch of the Third Call for Expressions of Interest

RCF is launching the Third Call for Expressions of Interest in the third week of May 2023!

As with the previous two regional challenges, the 3rd call will invite applications from consortia of vocational training institutes and enterprises from WB6 economies, implementing cooperative or dual VET courses that result in nationally recognized certificates.

The RCF team also encourages the applicants who were not shortlisted to consider revising their expression of interest and re-apply for RCF support within the following calls.

Please follow RCF:



Save the Date >> Annual Regional Conference

The RCF is planning the Annual Regional Conference on May 30th, 2023, to share the experiences and lessons learned from its first two calls, present the 3rd call and promote the exchange among stakeholders in vocational education and training in the region. This fully virtual event will gather experts from international organizations, chambers of commerce, vocational training providers, and enterprises.

The RCF team will present the key lessons learned about the cooperative training arrangements in the WB6 region from two open calls and invite further exchange on relevant topics such as greening VET, VET digitalization and digitization, career development support to students in dual and cooperative training, teachers' and in-company trainers' capacity building and other.

Events during the Q1 2023:



RCF Technical Advisory Committee Workshop held in North Macedonia

The Technical Advisory Committee of the RCF took place for the second time on January 25-26, 2023, in Skopje, North Macedonia.

The two-day workshop gathered VET experts from **Western Balkans 6 Chamber Investment Forum**. RCF's partners from **KfW German Development Bank** and the **Swiss Embassy in North Macedonia**, VET specialists from WB6, and **RCF Fund Management Unit**.

[Read more](#)

Implementation Partners

