

**ACTION FICHE FOR THE 2007 EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP  
REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME**

**1. IDENTIFICATION**

Title	Euro-Mediterranean partnership Global Allocation for 2008		
Total cost	EUR 10,000,000		
Aid method / Management mode	Project approach – centralised		
DAC-code		Sector	

**2. RATIONALE**

The Euro-Mediterranean partnership Global Allocation for 2008 follows a series of former Global Allocations financed in the framework of the MEDA programme.

This is a flexible mechanism, a "facility" giving the EC the possibility to decide on the financing of small-scale actions that are in keeping with the objectives of the Southern dimension of the ENPI programme as well as its operational and policy priorities.

Based on the ENPI Regulation, and in particular Article 16 "Support measures" thereof, the Euro-Mediterranean partnership Global Allocation for 2008 provides funding directly necessary for the implementation of the ENPI Regulation and for the achievement of its objectives, e.g. support activities and studies to the country or multi-country programmes, the organisation of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership meetings, activities in the fields of culture and information as well as ad hoc operations.

**3. DESCRIPTION**

**3.1. Objectives**

The objective of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership Global Allocation for 2008 is to ensure rapidity of the commitment decision on small actions and projects, while enabling the European Commission to act with flexibility through the use of an instrument capable of adapting to evolving circumstances, such as dealing with unforeseen situations.

**3.2. Expected results and main activities**

The Global Allocation will be used as a framework for financing activities in the following fields:

Support to the project cycle management:

This component includes activities linked to:

- identification and formulation of bilateral and regional projects which may result in funding from Euro-Mediterranean partnership (e.g. sector studies, country or region studies, studies on cross-cutting issues or in specialised areas, preparatory activities, etc.),
- pilot projects and other small-scale activities to back up major projects during their implementation (programmes carried out under the country or multi-country programmes),
- audit and evaluation / impact assessment of projects for which financing of such activities could not be foreseen due to the N+1 rule, or is no longer available.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 3,500,000**, to be contracted by means of framework contracts. In the very few cases where the existing framework contracts would be impossible (e.g. budget over the EUR 200,000 threshold, experts unavailable for various lots, etc.), other procedures laid down in the Financial Regulation will be followed.

### **3.3. Cultural and information activities:**

This component covers activities of the EC delegations in the Mediterranean countries and territories in the following areas:

- culture: support to local or regional cultural activities in the fields of audiovisual and multimedia, arts, cultural festivals (cinema, dance, theatre), dialogue between cultures, etc.
- information: publications and other information and awareness-raising activities about the Euro-Mediterranean co-operation and partnership, designed and implemented in coherence and complementarity with the regional Information and Communication programme, in order to enhance the visibility of EC activities in each Mediterranean country.

This component will have an indicative budget of **EUR 2,000,000**, to be split among the EC delegations, based on their annual programme of activities. These activities will be implemented by means of grant and service contracts. All grant contracts will be awarded following calls for proposals launched locally by the EC delegations. The required procedures for service contracts will be applied in accordance with the Financial Regulation. This component will cover delegations' activities in 2008 since their activities on 2007 are already covered by the MEDA Global Allocation 2007.

### **3.4. Organisation of meetings:**

This component covers the different kinds of meetings organised by the EC in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership partnership, including ministerial conferences conducted in co-operation with the EU Presidency, thematic working groups, civil fora, sector preparation meetings, etc.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 1,500,000**. The technical preparation of the meetings as well as their logistical organisation will be done through framework contracts.

### **3.5. Ad hoc operations:**

This component will be used to finance operations for specific cases, which fall outside the scope of the standard country or multi-country programmes.

This is the case for the EC contribution to the Foundation for the Future, which promotes democracy and reform efforts in the Broader Middle East and North Africa region, focusing on providing financial and technical assistance to local non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, professional associations and individuals based in the region, and undertakes programs and activities contributing to the strengthening of freedoms and democracy. The financing of the EC contribution to the Foundation for the Future is foreseen under this Global Allocation, for an amount of EUR 1,000,000.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 3,000,000** to be split between service contracts, grant contracts and/or contracts with international organisations according to the needs of each activity.

## **4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES**

### **4.1. Implementation method**

Centralised management

### **4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures**

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the Commission for the implementation of external operations, in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question.

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions. The maximum possible rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may only be applied in the cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

In particular, the grant to the Foundation for the Future will be awarded without call for proposals given the Foundation's competences and high degree of specialisation in relation with the activities foreseen, based on art. 110 § 1 of the Financial Regulation and art. 168 § 1 f) of its Implementing Rules.

### **4.3. Budget and calendar**

Contracts can be financed under this Euro-Mediterranean partnership Global allocation as soon as the Commission decision is adopted, until the contracting-out deadline, in accordance with the "N+1" rule.

The indicated budgets for each component are only indicative and may be subject to revision according to the needs.

#### **4.4. Evaluation and audit**

Expenditure incurred will have to be certified, as part of the obligations of the contracted parties in the framework of the implementation of this project. Mid term and final evaluations of the results achieved will be entrusted to independent consultants, as well as external audits (which will be carried out if necessary). These evaluations and audits will be funded from other sources than the project budget, since no commitment will be possible once the validity of this Decision has expired ("N+1" rule will apply).