

Action fiche for ENP South region Annual Action Programme 2012 (part I)**1. IDENTIFICATION**

Title	Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2012-2013 (ENPI/2012/023-826)		
Total cost	EU contribution: EUR 16 million		
Aid method/ Management mode	Project approach – centralised		
DAC code	43010	Sector	Multi-sector

2. RATIONALE

The Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2012-2013 is a flexible “facility” giving the European Commission the possibility to decide to finance small-scale measures that are in keeping with the objectives of the Southern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy and its operational and policy priorities.

Based on the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) Regulation (Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006), in particular Article 16 on “Support measures”, the Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2012-2013 provides funding which allows to implement the ENPI Regulation and achieve its objectives, e.g. supporting activities and studies relating to the country or multi-country programmes, organisation of ENP South meetings, activities in the fields of culture and information.

3. DESCRIPTION**3.1. Objectives**

The objective of this global allocation is to ensure a swift preparation of actions and projects, while enabling the European Commission to act with flexibility by means of an instrument which is capable of adapting itself to evolving circumstances and/or 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:

(1) Support for project cycle management

This component includes activities linked to:

- a) identification and formulation of bilateral and regional projects which may result in funding from ENP South (e.g. sectoral studies, country or region

studies, studies on cross-cutting issues or in specialised areas, preparatory activities, etc.);

- b) small projects and other small-scale activities to back up major projects during implementation (programmes carried out under the country or multi-country programmes);
- c) 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 8.5 million**.

(2) Cultural, studies and information activities

This component supports activities in the Mediterranean countries and territories in the following areas:

- a) culture: support to local or regional cultural activities in the field of audiovisual and multimedia, arts, cultural festivals (cinema, dance, theatre, etc.), dialogue between cultures, etc.
- b) information: publications and other information and awareness-raising activities about the Euro-Mediterranean co-operation and partnership which are designed and implemented in coherence with and to complement the regional information and communication programme, in order to enhance the visibility of Commission's activities in each Mediterranean country.
- c) studies: studies on relevant issues, data collection and processing and the dissemination thereof.

This component will have an indicative budget of **EUR 3.25 million**, to be split among EU Delegations and Headquarters based on their annual programme of activities.

(3) Organisation of meetings and training activities

- a) This component covers different kinds of meetings organised by the Commission in the framework of the ENP South, including ministerial conferences conducted in co-operation with the EU presidency and thematic working groups, civil fora, sectoral preparatory meetings, etc.
- b) This component covers different kinds of training activities organised in the framework of the ENP South, including training seminars for Arab League's executives and other joint activities in the priority sectors of co-operation between the EU and the Arab League liaison office in Malta.

This liaison office is designed to enhance co-operation between the Euro-Mediterranean partners and the Arab League.

The beneficiaries of this support are the Members States of the Arab League, taken into account eligibility of countries as set by Article 27 of the ENPI Regulation.

The indicative budget for these components is **EUR 4.25 million**.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Implementation method

Direct centralised management by means of service and/or grant contracts.

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

1) Contracts

Where the action is in the sole interest of the Beneficiary, contracts must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the rules set out in Part Two, Title IV, "External Relations" of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the EU, completed by rules of Part One, Titles V and VI when so provided by Part Two, Title IV.

Where the action is in the shared interest of the Beneficiary and the Commission, or in the sole interest of the Commission, contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the rules set out in Part One, Titles V and VI of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the EU.

Irrespective of the procedure used, the authorising officer may decide to use the Commission standard contract templates, adapted as may be necessary.

2) Specific rules for grants

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions. The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may only be applied for actions implemented in the sole interest of the beneficiary and only in the cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation.

4.3. Indicative budget and calendar

The total budget for this action is EUR 16,000,000 divided as follows:

Component	Amount (EUR)
Support for project cycle management	8,500,000
Cultural and information activities	3,250,000
Organisation of meetings and training activities	4,250,000
Total:	16,000,000

Contracts can be financed under this part of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation as soon as the Commission Decision is adopted and until

31 December 2013 in accordance with the “N+1” rule, provided the funds available under the previous Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation have been fully used.

4.4. Performance monitoring

The monitoring of the implementation will be carried out, including periodic assessment of progress and delivery of the project results.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

Certification of expenditure will have to be submitted as part of the contracts implementing this decision. Evaluations of the results achieved by some of the projects financed under this Decision may be conducted by external experts entrusted by the Commission, along with external audits on the initiative of the Commission, if necessary. These evaluations and audits will be funded from other sources because the “N+1” rule applies after the contracting-out period for this Decision.

4.6. Communication and visibility

Communication and information activities are an integral part of the action, aiming at enhanced visibility and better understanding of EU-funded activities in the Neighbourhood South. The Communication and Visibility Manual for External Actions will be respected and followed to ensure the visibility coherence.