

ANNEX 7

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2014 -
Part 1 in favour of the ENI South countries

Action Document for 'Anna Lindh Foundation IV for inter-cultural dialogue'**1. IDENTIFICATION**

Title/Number	Anna Lindh Foundation IV for inter-cultural dialogue CRIS number: ENI/2014/037-474		
Total cost	Total estimated cost: EUR 15 million Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 7 million This action is co-financed in parallel co-financing by: Anna Lindh Foundation Member States for an amount of EUR 8 million Budget line: 21.03.01.01		
Aid method / Management mode and type of financing	Project Approach Direct management – grants – direct award		
DAC-code	15150	Sector	Democratic participation and civil society

2. RATIONALE AND CONTEXT**2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives**

The overall objective of this action is to continue supporting the work carried out by the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) in promoting knowledge, mutual respect and intercultural dialogue between the peoples of the Euro-Mediterranean Region.

In this Fourth phase, the ALF will aim at consolidating the achievements reached so far and transform them into far-reaching and sustainable actions, adapting its programme to the new realities and demands that intercultural dialogue addresses in the Region.

In this regards, special focus will be given to improve mutual perceptions and promote mutual understanding; promote the intercultural dialogue at grass roots level of the society through the implementation of civil society's initiatives; reinforce the ALF networks of civil society and their role in the development of the programme and in the setting up action tools for the Foundation. The Networks will play the role of antenna of the ALF within the 42 Member Countries and ensure that the

initiatives, actions, interventions of their members (civil society organisations belonging to the national network) converge towards common objectives.

The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) Regional Indicative Programme 2014-2017 recognises the importance of building partnership between the people and the regional co-operation on inter-cultural dialogue especially through support to the work of ALF.

2.2. Context

2.2.1. Regional context

2.2.1.1. Economic and social situation and poverty analysis

The recent deterioration of the macro-economic situation in the region was caused by the economic crisis, soaring food and energy products prices and political and social instability related to the Arab Spring. The countries of the region are characterized by (i) growth rates relatively lower compared to other developing and emerging regions, with a growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita which has never exceeded 2.7% on ten-year average, (ii) very high unemployment rates and a low level of participation (about 48% for all countries in the region), particularly for women and (iii) a large informal sector, estimated in some countries at 40% of GDP.

In the Mediterranean countries, living conditions have improved considerably over the last 30 years. Life expectancy, for the entire region, increased from 62.6 years in 1980 to 74.4 years in 2011. Similarly, the infant mortality rate has decreased significantly (from 65.6 (per 1000 births) in 1980 to 15.7 in 2011 for the whole region). In the field of education, the increasing enrolment rates in both the primary school (in average, almost all children in the region are now in school), high school education (where enrolment increased from 56.5% in the years 80-85 to 87.5% on average from 2000 to 2012) and post-graduate (from 16% to 40.5% on the same periods) and increased literacy rates, which rose from 56.3% in the mid-80s to 81% on average over the years 2000-2012, illustrate the efforts and progress made in this area. However, literacy rates of all Mediterranean countries are still lower in comparison to other regions.

Another important achievement of Mediterranean countries is related to the reduction of the level of poverty. Among the developing and emerging countries, Mediterranean countries have, on average, the lowest percentages of the population below the international poverty line poverty. Only 1.8% of people live with less than USD 1.25 per day. Similarly, the Gini index, which gives a measure of the level of income inequality shows that Mediterranean societies are relatively more egalitarian than those other regions of the southern hemisphere. However, a significant proportion of the population (10%) is in a vulnerable situation (i.e. living with less than USD 2 per day).

2.2.1.2. Regional development policy

Three years after the Arab upheavals, the situation in the region remains very complex with increased fragmentation. Despite the unquestioned democratic gains (elections, more vocal civil society), the heated debates about the form of new social contracts and the role of religion are strongly polarising Arab societies. The economic situation remains worrisome and social demands still focus on political

dignity (freedom, human rights) and improvement in social and economic conditions. The ongoing conflict in Syria with its international repercussions overshadows the whole situation.

The EU's strategic response to the Arab Spring came on 8 March 2011, with the Joint Communication proposing "A partnership for democracy and shared prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean"¹. This was followed by the Joint Communication on 25 May 2011 which initiated the launch of "A new response to a changing Neighbourhood"².

In implementing the above, the EU has intensified dialogue and co-operation with regional actors. The EU as co-president of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) together with Jordan, gave a new impetus to the UfM, a unique forum for dialogue among 43³ Euromed partners that shares and builds upon the goals of the Barcelona Declaration and complements bilateral relations between the EU and its southern neighbours.

There has been also renewed impetus for co-operation with the League of Arab States (LAS) which is a key forum for finding political and security solutions to conflicts affecting the region. The EU is also developing contacts with the Organisation of Islamic Co-operation (OIC) and supports the sub-regional co-operation, i.e. in Maghreb with the 5+5 Dialogue.

After a long break, the UfM resumed holding of Ministerial meetings, first on the role of Women (September 2013), and then on Transport (November), Energy (December), Industry (February 2014) and Environment/climate change (May 2014). This is a positive signal expressing a shared objective in establishing deeper regional co-operation both between EU and Southern countries and South –South co-operation.

2.2.2. Sector context: policies and challenges

The situation of civil society varies across the Southern Neighbourhood but since the "Arab Spring" new and more fluid forms of citizen groups are on the rise. The "Arab Spring" showed the potential for social movements to effect change, often through new channels such as social media. Speaking at the Civil Protection Civil Society Roundtable in Cairo, November 2012, Commissioner for Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle recognised that the sustainability of the transformation process in the region hinges on empowering civil society.

For this reason, the EU has prioritised working with civil society in the two joint communications, "A partnership for democracy and shared prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean" and "A new response to a changing Neighbourhood", which set the basis of renewed co-operation with the Southern Region in 2011. One

¹ COM(2011)200 of 8 March 2011.

² COM(2011)303 of 25 May 2011.

³ Austria, Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, The Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, The Netherlands, Palestine (this designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, The United Kingdom and Libya as an observer. The participation of Syria is currently suspended.

year later, the Joint Communication, "Delivering on a new European Neighbourhood Policy" stressed the democratising role played by civil society notably by ensuring inclusive reform.

In 2012, the EU underlined the importance of an empowered civil society as a crucial component of any democratic system stating that it "can contribute to more effective policies, equitable and sustainable development and inclusive growth", as stated in the Communication "The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with civil society in external relations"⁴. The EU Aid Effectiveness Agenda of September 2011 recognises how important it is to encourage civil society actors and increase the democratic ownership of development policies.

Civil society in the Southern Mediterranean is changing with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) growing in numbers and gaining recognition as development actors in their own right. CSOs are often able to represent vulnerable/socially excluded groups and trigger social innovation, yet the relationship between states and CSOs is often delicate. In many respects, CSOs focused on human rights and advocacy still face limitations. CSOs require a functioning democratic legal and judicial system with the right to associate and secure funding as well as freedom of expression, access to information and participation in public life.

The situation of CSOs in the Southern Neighbourhood differs from one country to another but some common features are, (1) restrictive political contexts which have developed mistrust between institutional representatives and civil society, (2) CSOs' capacity to engage in policy dialogue which remains weak, (3) isolation, (4) complex procedures which hamper access to funds and (5) the need for more accessible regional co-operation.

The Anna Lindh Foundation has played a fundamental role since 2005 in forming a bridge between the Euro-Mediterranean region by promoting understanding and intercultural dialogue between cultures, religions and people. Promoting Intercultural Dialogue in the region is more imperative than ever, as a response to some regressive cultural and social trends which are fuelling the rise of xenophobia and new forms of exclusion. This task should be implemented promoting democratic values, reinforcing the participation of civil society, and investing in youth leadership. The Regional Indicative Programme 2014-2017 recognises the importance of building partnership between the people and in particular of inter-cultural dialogue in particular through support to the work of ALF. The activities of the ALF are a joint endeavour combining the efforts of its 42 national networks and its Secretariat/Headquarters in Alexandria.

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, formerly known as the Barcelona Process, was re-launched at the Paris Summit in 2008 as the Union for the Mediterranean. The Paris Summit conveyed the importance of this Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in regards to the recognition it plays in establishing peace, security and shared prosperity in the Mediterranean. In addition to this announcement, the Paris Summit also communicated that "*the ALF would contribute to the cultural dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean, the ALF has to take into account the dialogue between cultures and ensure complementarities and synergies with the activities of other programmes in this field of action*".

⁴ COM(2012)492 of 12 September 2012.

2.3. Lessons learnt

After acquiring 10 years of experience in intercultural dialogue, the next and fourth phase of the EU support to the ALF must build upon the achievements of the three previous phases, in particular its credibility and the institutional legitimacy acquired through the work accomplished with civil society. The fourth phase will also be based on the major conclusions drawn during the Marseille ALF Forum (April 2013) which recognises the need of the Foundation as a bridge between civil society and institutions and the findings of the ALF 2014 Report on Intercultural Trends.

On the basis of the assessments carried out so far and the relevant role played by the Networks, the new phase should strengthen and improve the Networks' roles and activities making their selection more transparent and opening their activities to other CSOs not part of the Networks. Over 4,000 civil society organisations have joined the Networks as partners thus representing the largest network of organisations in the region devoted to intercultural dialogue. The new challenge at this stage is to exercise a stronger monitoring on the role played by the Heads of the Networks and to develop a coherent programme for all of them, which could ensure a real impact on national civil societies. The activities of the new phase therefore will include actions to improve the quality of the networking dimension aiming at improving the outreach and ensuring civil society representativeness.

The Marseille Forum acknowledged the need for a major shift that emphasises dialogue and civil engagement based upon shared democratic values and recognised the key role the ALF is playing to foster intercultural dialogue as a tool for conflict resolution and to support civil society as a driver of change in the democratisation process. Cultural diversity, human rights, freedom of speech and the worth of the individual must be valued and up-held.

The Forum, the Networks, and the ALF Advisory Council converged on the key opportunities which can be leveraged to fulfil the ALF mandate in the new context. They have stressed the positive emergence of new actors and new prospects for building innovative forms of inclusive citizenship based on multiple identities, as well as underlining the positive impact that culture can have on social and economic development.

Reference should be made to the Citizens for Dialogue (Dawrak) and Young Arab Voices programmes through which the ALF for the first time is implementing programmes with trainings, applications and speakers all in Arabic. This has allowed the ALF to become more responsive to the civil societies in the Arab countries and to the social changes taking place in the region and it has had a profound impact on all the ALF activities in terms of bringing concepts of inclusive citizenship and youth participation to the centre of ALFs identity.

The ALF role as a broker between civil society and institutions has been reinforced through the Dawrak programme and the preparation of the ALF Forum in Marseille. It can be further developed by creating closer relations between the Board of governors, the Advisory Council and the National Networks. This gives ALF the opportunity to advocate and impact on the Euro-Med intercultural agenda and to contribute to giving the Union for the Mediterranean a social and cultural dimension.

Promoting exchanges across the Mediterranean is the fundament of most of the ALF activities and programmes. During Phase III, several hundreds of citizens travelled to another country to participate in activities organised by the Foundation, adding burden and uncertainty to the management of the activities particularly when they moved across the Mediterranean or between some southern countries. The Board of governors and its members should enable mobility for members and beneficiaries of the ALF activities by facilitating visas, as an expression of their commitment with the Foundation and Intercultural Dialogue in the region.

2.4. Complementary actions

The Euro Med Youth IV, NET-MED Youth and the Erasmus+ Programmes promote mobility, youth exchanges, informal learning, mutual understanding, training and youth networking projects and support of youth organisations from both the EU and Mediterranean Partner Countries which all enhance Euro-Mediterranean co-operation in the youth field. In addition, the ALF will complement a global initiative under the thematic programme *Investing in People* whose aim is to contribute to inclusive growth by helping partner countries to better respond to the aspirations of young people and strengthen their involvement in national development processes, through a better understanding of the determinants of youth inclusion and greater capacity to design effective evidence-based national policies promoting youth inclusion.

Concerning audiovisual activities, complementary actions will be sought with the Euro Med Audiovisual III Programme, which will contribute to the strengthening and further development of the Mediterranean audiovisual sector.

Some of the ALF's main actions, for instance, the Forum and the Report are suitable fields for the already established partnership strengthening with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Alliance of Civilisations, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States, the Islamic Education, Science, Cultural Organisation (ISECO), the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the EuroMed Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA), the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators (COPEAM) and the Euro-Mediterranean Assembly of Local and Regional Authorities (ARLEM).

At a regional level, the Anna Lindh Foundation will develop its strategy within the context of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the Union for the Mediterranean (Paris, July 2008). It will continue to collaborate with relevant Euro-Med programmes as well as those carried out by other regional or international institutions.

In the field of Media, ALF will continue to promote complementary actions developed during the EuroMed Media Task Force and the United Nations (UN) Alliance of Civilisations.

Finally ALF work will complement the putting into motion of the Communication "The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with civil society in external relations" of September 2012 and more specifically the design and implementation of the foreseen EU roadmaps for engagement with civil society to be adopted at bilateral basis in each Southern Mediterranean country.

2.5. Donor co-ordination

Financial contributions to the Anna Lindh Foundation's budget come from the European Union and the 42 Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Countries that constitute the Foundation's Board of governors. The Board of governors in the presence of the EU representative(s) approves the Programme and its provisional budget thus representing the best setting to ensure EU donor co-ordination.

With a view to ensure stronger co-ordination, the principle of voluntary Member State contributions should become a formal commitment, in order to create a budget based on concrete pledges before the starting of the triennial Phase. The Member States could contribute through an extra-budgetary project, such as the Young Arab Voices funded by the British Council in the last Phase.

Broader donor community co-ordination is ensured with the Alliance of Civilisations (within the UN system), whose aim is to promote dialogue through its representatives and its universal and regional bodies.

3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The overall objective of this action is to support intercultural dialogue between the peoples of the Euro-Mediterranean region. The EU conceives intercultural dialogue as an action within the civil society ultimately aimed at valuing diversity, promoting social participation in building open and plural societies and fostering human development and fundamental rights.

The specific objectives are:

- 1) To contribute to improving mutual perceptions across the Mediterranean and the recognition of diversity as a source of mutual enrichment, by facilitating mutual understanding and supporting cultural and social exchanges within and between societies.
- 2) To provide civil society with tools for participation and for building inclusive and plural societies, by facilitating spaces for dialogue, networking and exchange among civil society practitioners and institutions and by developing the capacity of multipliers.
- 3) To promote human development through the support of grassroots level civil society actions and by encouraging initiatives that stimulates community development through intercultural dialogue.
- 4) To reinforce the ALF Networks role as facilitators for intercultural dialogue by providing them with the competencies, tools, and means to disseminate the ALF programme and civil society actions on the ground. The Networks should play the role of antenna of the ALF within the 42 Member Countries and ensure that the initiatives, actions, interventions of their members (civil society organisations belonging to the national network) converge towards common objectives.

3.2. Expected results and main activities

The fourth phase of the EU support to the Anna Lindh Foundation aims to achieve the following results:

- Relevant resources and spaces are created that facilitate exchange and networking, stimulate debate and reflection on intercultural matters, and encourage mutual knowledge and understanding within and between societies in the Euro-Mediterranean region.
- Competencies are built among educators, journalists, cultural and civil society actors, through skills development and spaces for networking and exchange, for the promotion of active citizenship and inclusive and plural societies in the Euro-Mediterranean region.
- Civil society actions implemented in collaboration between CSOs and institutions from the North and the South are supported, with the purpose of empowering civil society and mobilising local communities for the promotion of intercultural dialogue and inclusive citizenship.
- ALF National Networks are empowered to be open and relevant spaces for conception, action and exchange among national civil society actors in each country, promoting intercultural dialogue and implementing the ALF programme at the national and local level.

Activity 1: Understanding major challenges and trends in intercultural relations and perceptions in the region improving mutual perceptions and promoting mutual understanding. Indicative activities will include the launch of the third Opinion Poll, publication of the third edition of the Anna Lindh Report on Intercultural Trends and Social Changes, and organisation of Seminars and education training in intercultural dialogue, among others. Through its comparative work with previous editions the Report will provide a relevant basis for sharing reflections about a future Euro-Med within the Foundation and its Networks.

Activity 2: Building a region-wide participatory process that gathers together representatives from CSO's and key institutions of the region for thinking, sharing, and building together by promoting key Euro-Mediterranean spaces for dialogue such as the Anna Lindh Forum.

Activity 3: Supporting the ALF National Networks with improved competencies in adapting and implementing the ALF programme at national and local level. The Network support will promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences within and among the Networks and encourage Network initiatives with cross-border and thematic dimensions encouraging common actions and synergies among members. Network initiatives will be supported through open calls, allowing for the most appropriate and effective actions to be supported. Networks' supported activities will be fully in line with ALF strategy and will help to achieve its objectives. Networks' role as core ALF representatives at national level will be reinforced.

Activity 4: Supporting civil society initiatives that are developed in partnership between the South and in the North, through Calls for Proposals and the aim of increasing ALF exposure to civil society organisations not part of its structure.

Following the experience of the previous Phases the grants will remain at the core of the ALF Programme and contribute to innovation within the fields of the ALF, reaching local communities and promoting intercultural dialogue initiatives at grass root level all over the Euro-Mediterranean region. The Calls for Proposals will promote and support exchanges of best practices, the involvement of more vulnerable beneficiaries and dialogue within these communities and the exchanges and debate for people with different origins, traditions and beliefs, in particularly with the youth.

Activity 5: Developing Intercultural Competencies and Capacities for young professionals and CSOs, with a focus on competencies for dialogue, debate and participation in public life, and investing in relevant fields such Education, Culture, Youth and Social Entrepreneurship. These initiatives will be promoted at the Euro-Med level through the South/North Exchange component.

Activity 6: Engaging citizens at large in promoting a culture of intercultural dialogue through Cultural Activities, Media Debates, Regional Awards and high-profile debates such as the Journalist Award, the Euro-Med Dialogue Award, and the 'Sea of Words' network contest. These public activities, awards and media debates will be at the core of disseminating the value of intercultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region with a specific target of increasing youth participation regarding intercultural dialogue.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

The main assumption underlying this intervention is that the ALF has to be recognised as a tool to improve mutual perceptions and better understanding among people of different origins, cultures and beliefs and to create spaces of exchange and dialogue based on mutual respect and universal values in the forty-three countries of the Union for the Mediterranean. In addition, it worth mentioning that the ALF is linked to the EuroMed institutional challenge and that the implementation of its strategy has to take into account the evolution of the Union for the Mediterranean process.

The main risks and possible constrains is represented by the fact that the global budget of the Foundation is based upon the contributions of the European Union and the 42 Euro-Med governments. Any delay in the delivery of EuroMed government contributions or in the fulfilment of the corresponding commitments might lead to: difficult implementation of the planned activities or even to its termination; and it may endanger the Foundation's image and co-operation with its counterparts. The ALF which works on the basis of a three year work plan will revise and adapt its plan of activities in the case of a substantial budget reduction due to any missing contribution by a member state.

3.4. Cross-cutting issues

The Project integrates culture of peace, good governance, citizens participation and human rights in its activities, which are both at the basis of respect and preservation of cultural diversity. Given the importance of women empowerment policies in the region, the Foundation will also encourage and support projects addressing women affairs and ensure that gender equality is reflected among the activities' participants. The Foundation will target both women working at the policy making level, in order

to favour regional exchanges and actions promoting advocacy roles for women within their society, and women at the grass root level, in order to create common grounds for exchange and understanding around traditional and universal values.

As mentioned in the last report published by the ALF, concepts as freedom of religion and belief and the non-manipulation of religions will also be taken into account as a cross cutting issue.

3.5. Stakeholders

The Foundation acts as a Network of Networks of the 42 civil societies forming the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. National networks, which are coordinated by Head of Network institutions, participate in the Foundation's programme preparation, which is presented for approval by the Executive Director to the Board of governors. Their role is essential to give a concrete shape to Euro-Med human and cultural co-operation.

The 42 networks are the constituent element of the Foundation and the major actors in implementation of the programme. They are responsible for addressing the specific needs and requests of the civil society and reflect them in the development and action plans of the National Networks, in project grant schemes, in regional actions and operations conceived and co-organized by the Foundation. The networks gather more than 3,000 organisations from the civil society, half of them non-governmental and the other half non-profit public and private foundations, local authorities, or academic institutions. Members are active in several fields such as international relations, youth, gender and education, arts and heritage, democracy and human rights, research, environment and sustainable development, media, and religious affairs. It is therefore forecast that at least 2/3 of the Network members will benefit in the next three years from the intervention of the ALF through its partnership, exchange, and capacity building services, or through co organisation of events/activities.

The Foundation also establishes specific partnership agreements with international organisations such as the UN Alliance of Civilizations, the Arab League, the Council of Europe, UNESCO, as well as regional networks and platforms operating in the Euro-Med region. These partnerships aim at implementing specific actions in line with the ALF programme and can increase the visibility of the Euro-Mediterranean partnerships.

As far as the final beneficiaries of the Euro-Med region are concerned, the quantifiable estimation has to be based on official statistics. The total population of the 42 Euro Mediterranean countries corresponds to around 773 million and the total amount of young population aged between 15 and 24 is estimated to be around 117 million, corresponding to one sixth of the total population. The estimated target of young people who should be reached through the Foundation's activities and grants is between 1.2 million and 1.4 million. The estimated target of young people which should be reached using media and information technologies and means and in co-operation with existing media has been estimated to be at least 10% of the total young population of the Euro-Med region.

If relevant, partner countries other than ENI countries (Albania, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Comoros, Djibouti, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iraq,

Kosovo, Kuwait, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Somalia, Sudan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen) shall be associated to the activities foreseen by this action, in accordance with Article 16(1) of Regulation (EU) No 232/2014.

At the time of writing this action document, EU co-operation with Syrian governmental authorities is still suspended. In case this decision is reversed, the Commission will assess the opportunity to involve Syrian authorities in the implementation. The political instability and/or security situation in Syria will be assessed prior to that in order to confirm the feasibility/opportunity to: a) engage the stakeholders and b) implement the activities.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with a partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

4.2. Indicative operational implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in sections 3.2. and 4.3. will be carried out, is 48 months (action grant), subject to modifications to be agreed by the responsible authorising officer in the relevant contract. The closure period of this action is 24 months from the date of finalisation of the operational implementation period. The European Parliament and the relevant Committee shall be informed of the extension of the operational implementation period within one month of that extension being granted.

4.3. Implementation components and modules

This action will be implemented through an Action Grant that will financially support the activities planned by the ALF in its fourth phase. This grant will have the same duration as the ALF fourth phase, 2015-2018.

4.3.1 Action Grant: direct award (direct management)

- a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

In this fourth phase, the ALF aims to reinforce the programmes developed in previous phases that are impacting on dialogue within and between societies, while remaining responsive to the changing realities in the region.

PROMOTING DIALOGUE ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NURTURING SHARED UNIVERSAL VALUES

Facilitating mutual understanding, promoting cultural and social exchanges is essential for changing the trends which are affecting the perception of the others. The ALF should ensure that this objective is present in most of the activities of the Foundation and its Networks during Phase IV. This objective is in line with the 2013

UNESCO recommendation on supporting Intercultural Competences which states that: 'Intercultural competences aim at freeing people from their own logic and cultural idioms in order to engage with others and listen to their ideas, which may involve belonging to one or more cultural systems, particularly if they are not valued or recognised in a given socio-political context. Acquiring intercultural competences is a thrilling challenge since no one is, naturally, called upon to understand the values of others'.

In this regard, the new Programme should ensure continuity to the programmes which are particularly relevant for improving perceptions and facilitating the sharing of universal values such as the 'Educators for Intercultural Learning'; the 'Report on Intercultural Trends'; the 'Translation for Mediterranean' or the 'Media Reporters across Cultures' programmes.

FOSTERING DIALOGUE WITHIN SOCIETIES AND MAKING DIVERSITY A SOURCE OF MUTUAL ENRICHMENT.

According to the conclusions of the ALF Forum, cultural diversity is a growing reality in the region, as a consequence of globalization and human movements. Making this diversity a source of richness and inclusiveness is one of the most important challenges of the 21st Century. Engaging civil society in giving a positive response to this challenge constitutes one of the main objectives of the next ALF Programme.

The last ten years confirmed this reality. Therefore, the Foundation should reinforce the programmes and activities put in place during the previous phases and which are impacting more on promoting dialogue within societies. The role of the National Networks is essential in this regard, tailoring the ALF Programme to the context and needs of each society, and creating spaces for exchange and knowledge, at the grass root level, between individuals of different origins, cultures and faiths.

PROVIDING CIVIL SOCIETY WITH TOOLS FOR PARTICIPATION AND BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND PLURAL SOCIETIES

From the very beginning, the ALF conceived Intercultural Dialogue as a result of civil society engagement and participation. Participation by local authorities and civil societies should be encouraged not only with a generic reference to democracy, but also with reference to the precise requirements of good governance.

In the Southern Mediterranean countries, the 'Dawrak-Citizens for Dialogue' and the 'Young Arab Voices' programmes have played a decisive role in this regard, providing skills for participation and facilitating spaces for dialogue for civil society practitioners. On both shores of the Mediterranean, the ALF Networks should promote a culture of civic participation and new forms of citizenship.

Following the 2013 Forum of Marseille, the Foundation established a unique space for interaction between civil society, regional institutions and governments. Such a strategy should be extended at all the levels facilitating a positive dialogue and interaction between institutions and representatives of the civil society, of particular importance for the countries which are in a process of democratic transition.

ENCOURAGING THE POTENTIAL OF CULTURE AND DIALOGUE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The ALF National Networks will have a central role in fulfilling the objective of fostering the role of culture and dialogue for Human Development and the Foundation will find synergies with relevant regional institutions and stakeholders for launching and development programmes related to this objective.

Responding to proposals of Network Heads, the ALF also sets out to explore and support the role of social and cultural entrepreneurs in promoting cross-cultural dialogue. The initiative, which would build on recommendations of the Forum of Marseille can identify and maximise emerging opportunities for leveraging new models of civic organisation in response to economic and development challenges in the region, including youth unemployment.

b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to Anna Lindh Foundation.

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because such modality is allowed for actions having specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence or its high degree of specialisation. This is the case of the ALF which plays a pivotal role in the promotion of intercultural dialogue and functions as a network of networks. In addition, the ALF is a result of a high level advisory group on dialogue between peoples and culture in the Euro-Mediterranean area called by the European Commission itself.

The ALF added value comes from its unique nature as both an inter-governmental organisation and a network of CSOs. As such, the ALF is the best platform for both governments and civil society organisations to work in the fields covered by the ALF's mandate.

c) Eligibility conditions

N/A

d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

e) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

The maximum possible rate of co-financing may be up to 100% in accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the responsible authorising officer in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

f) Indicative trimester to contact the potential direct grant beneficiary

Fourth quarter of the year 2014.

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

Subject to the following, the geographical eligibility conditions in terms of the place of establishment for participating in procurement procedures and in terms of the origin of supplies and materials purchased as established in the basic act shall apply.

The responsible authorizing officer may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 9(3) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

4.5. Indicative budget

Module	Amount in EUR thousands	Third party contribution (indicative, where known)
4.3.1. – Direct Action grant Anna Lindh Foundation (direct management)	7,000	8,000

4.6. Performance monitoring

The Foundation is elaborating a coherent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system and impact measurement framework centred on result-based management. In light of the above, the Foundation will implement during the next phase the practical monitoring and evaluation system which will be managed internally. This system is considered to be an evolving process, in line with international principles, norm and standards for monitoring and evaluation and inspired by the European Commission literature. The system will be used to elaborate the contractual reports.

The European Union may conduct additional monitoring or evaluation missions, using external expertise according to needs. ALF and the European Union shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and jointly decide on the follow-up action to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, the reorientation of the action.

4.7. Evaluation and audit

A mid-term and final evaluation of programme implementation will be carried out.

Expenditure incurred will have to be certified, as part of the obligations of the contracted parties in the context of implementation of this action. In this regard, the

grants awarded to ALF will be subject to expenditure verification. Mid-term and final evaluations of the results achieved will be entrusted to independent consultants, and external audits will be carried out if necessary.

4.8. Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated before the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section 4.5 above.

The measures shall be implemented either (a) by the Commission, and/or (b) by the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, financing agreements, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

EU communication and visibility will be addressed in all Euro Mediterranean countries in close co-operation with the relevant EU Delegations and in line with the EU visibility guidelines applicable to all external actions.