

Annex 7

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the ENPI Regional South Annual Action Programme 2013 –Part I

Action Fiche for Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2013-2014

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2013-2014 CRIS number: ENPI/2013/024-711		
Total cost	Total estimated cost: EUR 13 million Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 13 million		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Project Approach: Direct centralised management		
DAC-code	43010	Sector	Multi-sector

2. RATIONALE AND CONTEXT

2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives

The Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2013-2014 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.

2.2. Context

The Regional Indicative Programme (2011-2013)¹ for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) recognises the global allocation as one of its key priorities.

Based on the ENPI Regulation², in particular Article 16 on “Support measures”, the Euro-Mediterranean partnership global allocation for 2013-2014 provides funding to cover expenditure associated with the preparation, follow-up, monitoring, auditing and evaluation activities directly necessary for the implementation of the ENPI Regulation and for the achievement of its objectives, e.g. studies, meetings, information, awareness-raising, publication and training activities, including training and educational measures for partners enabling them to take part in the various stages of the programme, expenditure associated with computer networks for the exchange of information and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure that the Commission may incur for the management of the programme.

¹ C(2010)9365 of 22 December 2010.

² Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006.

Therefore, the global allocation will also support activities linked to the priorities outlined in the two Joint Communications of the European Commission and of the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy "A partnership for democracy and shared prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean"³ and "A new response to a changing Neighbourhood"⁴.

3. DETAILED 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) Studies and information activities

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

- a) 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 EU's activities in each Mediterranean country.

³ COM(2011)200 of 8 March 2011.

⁴ COM(2011)303 of 25 May 2011.

- b) studies: studies on relevant issues, data collection and processing and the dissemination thereof.

This component will have an indicative budget of **EUR 2 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 European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) South region, 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 region.

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

The indicative budget for these components is **EUR 2.5 million**.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of the Financial Regulation.

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 36 months, subject to modifications to be agreed by the responsible authorising officer in the relevant agreements.

4.3. Implementation components and modules

The programme will be financed through direct centralised management using both grants and procurements.

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership global allocation for 2013-2014 is meant to react with flexibility to evolving circumstances and unforeseen situations, therefore the separations of amounts and number of contracts is provisional and indicative. Numbers are based on previous years' experience.

4.3.1. Grants: call for proposals (direct centralised management)

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

The objective of the grants is to ensure preparation of actions and projects by giving support to project cycle management, studies and information activities and organisation of meetings and training activities.

b) Eligibility conditions

As foreseen in the ENPI basic act.

c) 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.

d) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for grants under this call is 80%.

The maximum possible rate of co-financing may be up to 100% in accordance with Articles 192 of the Financial Regulation and 109 of the Financial Regulation of the 10th EDF 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.

e) Indicative trimester to launch the call

Throughout the year.

4.3.2. *Procurement (direct centralised management)*

Subject in generic terms, if possible	Type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative number of contracts	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Ensure preparation of actions and projects	Supplies, services	100	Throughout the year

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement in direct centralised and decentralised management

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

The responsible authorising officer may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 27(1) of the basic act.

4.5. Indicative budget

Component	Amount in EUR thousands	Third party contribution
Support for project cycle management	8,500	0
Studies and information activities	2,000	0
Organisation of meetings and training activities	2,500	0
TOTAL	13,000	0

Module	Amount in EUR thousands	Third party contribution (indicative, where known)
4.3.1. – Call for proposals (direct centralised)	7,800	0
4.3.2. – Procurement (direct centralised)	5,200	N.A.

4.6. Performance monitoring

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

4.7. 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.

4.8. 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 EU External Actions⁵ will be respected and followed to ensure the visibility coherence.

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/visibility/index_en.htm.