

## **Standard Summary Project Fiche**

### **IPA decentralised National programmes**

**Project number: TR 07 03 02**

#### **1. Basic information**

- 1.1 CRIS Number:
- 1.2 Title: EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue – Cultural Bridges
- 1.3 Sector: Civil Society Dialogue
- 1.4 Location: Turkey

#### **Implementing arrangements:**

- 1.5 Implementing Agency:

The Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) will be Implementing Agency and will be responsible for all procedural aspects, contracting matters and financial management, including payment of project activities.

The Head of the CFCU will act as Programme Authorising Officer.

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- 1.6 Beneficiary (including details of SPO):

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Multilateral Cultural Affairs Department (ÇKGY)  
Balgat 06100 Ankara  
Turkey

- 1.7 Overall cost: €6.6 million
- 1.8 EU contribution: €6.6 million
- 1.9 Final date for contracting: 2 years after signature of the Financing Memorandum (expected date: 2009)
- 1.10 Final date for execution of contracts: 4 years after signature of the Financing Memorandum
- 1.11 Final date for disbursements: 5 years after signature of the Financing Memorandum

#### **2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose**

## 2.1 Overall Objective

The wider objective is to promote a cultural dialogue and understanding between civil societies in Turkey and the EU Member States. As part of the Civil Society Dialogue, cultural cooperation is encouraged through support for multinational cultural projects with high visibility. Building on the EU Member States' expertise, this project seeks to directly involve the EU cultural institutes/offices and their Turkish partners in the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue, and thereby strengthen contacts and mutual exchange of experience in the field of culture in the EU Member States and Turkey.

## 2.2 Project Purpose

The project will help integrate the EU Member States' cultural offices/institutes in Turkey as leading actors in the Civil Society Dialogue in addition to their bilateral activities in Turkey. Their expertise on intercultural dialogue and building bridges between different cultures will represent a significant contribution to this initiative. A lasting and sustainable EU-Turkey dialogue and partnership focused on culture is at the heart of the *Cultural Bridges* Programme. That is why to give the programme a true dimension of dialogue, at least one Turkish cultural actor must be involved in the project as partner. Activities should target the public at large and be accessible to the largest number of citizens.

The project is comprised of indicatively 10 direct grant agreements with interested EU cultural institutes, as project leaders, present in Turkey as well as technical assistance to facilitate the implementation. Consultations with both EU Member States and their Turkey-based cultural institutes took place in June 2007. If a Member State is not represented with a cultural institute in Turkey, it may cooperate with partner organisations and team up with other EU Member States. However, sufficient operational capacity in Turkey must be demonstrated.

## 2.3 Link with AP/NPAA

Enhancement of freedom of expression and association, as well as the development of civil society dialogue is a significant element in the Accession Partnership (2005). The promotion of a Civil Society Dialogue was specifically endorsed in the conclusions of the European Council (December, 2004).

### *Accession Partnership 2006*

Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly

“Facilitate and encourage open communication and cooperation between all sectors of Turkish civil society and European partners”

### *EU Presidency Council decision December, 2004*

On 17 December 2004 the European Council endorsed the European Commission recommendation and broadened its scope by stipulating that “parallel to accession negotiations, the Union will engage with every candidate state in an intensive political

and cultural dialogue. With the aim of enhancing mutual understanding by bringing people together, this inclusive dialogue also will involve civil society.”<sup>1</sup>

#### 2.4 Link with MIPD

The MIPD (2007-2013) identified the promotion of an EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue as a strategic orientation. Media, youth, academic institutions, local authorities, professional organisations, social partners, and NGOs were pinpointed as the target group of this dialogue. Activities may address a broad range of issues such as religious communities, gender issues, cultural and historical heritage, and human rights. It is expected that the support provided would not only contribute to the strengthening of civil society in Turkey, but would also help counteract the negative perceptions of the Turkey’s EU-accession process.

#### 2.5 Link with National Development Plan (where applicable)

Not applicable

#### 2.6 Link with national/sectoral investment plans (where applicable)

Not applicable

### **3. Description of project**

#### 3.1 Background and justification:

Turkey has a history of close political and economic ties with the European institutions dating back to the signature of an Association Agreement in 1963, which subsequently led to the establishment of a customs union in 1995. Close bilateral interaction, at institutional but also at grass-root level, has taken place since the early sixties and has intensified since the official recognition of Turkey as a candidate country in 1999.

In October 2004, the Commission’s recommendation on Turkey’s progress towards accession, proposed the development of a dialogue between EU Member States and Turkey, “where concerns and perceptions can be discussed in a frank and open manner. It noted that “civil society should play the most important role in this dialogue, which should be facilitated by the EU.” The Commission recognised that in the case of Turkey, a dialogue aiming at improving mutual knowledge and encouraging a debate on perceptions regarding society and political issues on both sides is particularly necessary. Public opinion in Turkey is strongly supportive of EU membership, but information on the history, the functioning, rules and policies of the EU remains poor. Within the EU, public opinion is divided on the issue, with differences of opinion within and between Member States. The lively debate that has been ongoing in this respect focuses on a number of different themes, ranging from questions concerning culture and religion to those of a more practical nature. The expected impact of Turkish accession related to the country’s size, income, and geographical location is also widely debated.

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<sup>1</sup> Presidency Conclusions of the Brussels European Council of 16/17 December 2004 – 1638/04

On 17 December 2004 the European Council endorsed the European Commission recommendation and broadened its scope by stipulating that “parallel to accession negotiations, the Union will engage with every candidate state in an intensive political and cultural dialogue. With the aim of enhancing mutual understanding by bringing people together, this inclusive dialogue also will involve civil society.” Consequently, in June 2005, the Commission adopted a communication on the Civil Society Dialogue between the EU and Candidate Countries. This communication sets out a general framework on how to create and reinforce links between civil society in the EU and candidate countries. The Civil Society Dialogue should contribute to a societal debate around accession, with a view to allowing wide participation and information of civil society during the enlargement process. The long-term objective of the dialogue is to prepare civil society from the EU and candidate countries for future enlargement. The dialogue will have a special focus on Turkey, as the state of mutual knowledge is particularly weak with that country and misconceptions and concerns are more widespread. The Communication focuses on the broadest and the most inclusive definition of civil society, i.e. all society structures outside of government and public administration (but including local communities).

Following the publication of the Communication, the European Commission and the Turkish government, have launched a variety of support schemes to deepen the dialogue between Turkish and EU civil society organisations. In 2006, grant schemes worth €4.33 million were launched, providing support to approx. 70 dialogue projects currently under implementation. Another four calls for proposals targeting universities, youth, professional organisations, and municipalities were launched in April 2007 with total EC support of approximately €20 million.

Culture and the development of intercultural exchanges play a crucial role in the Civil Society Dialogue. Since 2002, the European Commission supported cultural and local information initiatives in Turkey through the ‘European Horizons and Mosaic Programmes’. In 2006, in line with the spirit of Civil Society Dialogue, the ‘Culture in Action’ programme with a total support of €1.45 million was launched to enable cross-border cooperation between Turkish NGOs and their EU partners operating in the cultural, arts and information campaign sectors.

The EU Member States are already active in promoting mutual exchanges, including mobility programmes, scholarships, media development, financial support to NGO development, exchanges between professional organisations, school links and so on. In addition, cultural relations between the EU Member States and Turkey are particularly intense and in some cases benefit from the establishment of Member States’ cultural institutes in Turkey.

Building upon their existing expertise and experience, this programme seeks to directly involve the EU Member States via their cultural institutes as active partners and facilitators in the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue. The involvement of the cultural institutes is the most promising arrangement to help build cultural bridges between Turkey and the EU in an efficient and cost effective manner. With their wide network and wide range of experience, the cultural institutes are uniquely well placed to promote intercultural dialogue in Turkey and visa-versa. They are also in a position to lend a high degree of visibility to the cultural dimension of the EU-Turkey Civil Society

Dialogue, which will significantly strengthen the cultural field of this initiative as well as increasing its overall public awareness/recognition that is still lacking.

The project has been drawn up in consultation with the EU Member States and their cultural institutes present in Turkey. The institutes have indicated their interest in playing a more active role in the Civil Society Dialogue. The projects will thus at the same time encourage these key stakeholders' ownership of the dialogue initiative. The activities foreseen in this project nevertheless have a pilot character: depending on the results, more ambitious actions may be considered under future programmes, on the basis of the experienced gained. When designing projects, it should be kept in mind that the specific aim of this programme is to improve the Civil Society Dialogue through the medium of cultural activities and to ensure the cooperation of the cultural actors and operators from both sides to work towards this end. Therefore, a lasting and sustainable EU-Turkey dialogue and partnership focused on culture is at the heart of the *Cultural Bridges* programme.

### 3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact (where applicable)

The involvement of EU cultural institutes and their EU and Turkish partners in the Civil Society Dialogue guarantees a high degree of sustainability as existing and well established structures will be responsible for the project management.

The project will foster contacts between Turkey and the EU. The experience of working together, sharing ideas, developing future projects will be a very useful outcome of this encounter. During the course of the activities, all those involved would be able to learn from one another, exchange know-how and best practices, and deliver common solutions when needed. It would also pave the way for Turkey's increased participation in the Community programme in the area of culture, namely Culture 2007. The timing of the programme furthermore provides the possibility that the *CSD - Cultural Bridges* programme would also contribute to both, Turkey's as well as the EU Member States' preparations for Istanbul European Capital of Culture 2010.

The multinational projects would further enrich the cultural scene in Turkey, putting the EU's engagement as well as the Civil Society Dialogue in the spotlight. Culture may be a useful tool to identify the similarities between Turkish and EU societies. Also, while on one hand, it might help start a debate in Turkey on cultural diversity and the wider appreciation of the cultural variety of Turkey, it might also encourage a discussion on misperceptions regarding culture and values on both sides.

While this programme does not specifically aim to boost cooperation and exchange in the EU-Turkey border regions, their participation is by no means excluded.

### 3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

The involvement of EU cultural institutes in the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue will unleash a variety of results:

- *Civil Society Dialogue strengthened and new bridges and contacts in the cultural domain built:* The number of cultural events as well as press articles published about them in Turkey and the EU under the framework of the Civil Society Dialogue has increased noticeably. For Turkey, this increase should be reflected measurably in the EC Delegation's press reviews.
- *Public visibility of the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue increased:* The programme activities and the CSD Cultural Bridges Management Board received noticeable media coverage in the local and national press as well as the usage of the EC Delegation's specific website on the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue increased. Civil society organisations in Turkey are more familiar with the initiative.
- *Cultural institutes play active role in the implementation of the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue:* Cultural institutes present in Turkey have become focal points Civil Society Dialogue activities in the cultural sphere. Complementary to their bilateral programmes, they have begun to implement multilateral activities and actively promote the dialogue on their websites. Member States not yet represented with a cultural office in Turkey may actively engage in this dialogue to present their cultures jointly with other Member States.
- *Increased ownership by key stakeholders:* EU Member States and their cultural institutes are closely following the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue and contribute actively through the implementation of direct grant agreement. The awareness among diplomats increased as indicated by their participation in relevant working groups, number of information requests and reporting to their home countries.
- *High level management board established and associated with the programme:* The *CSD Cultural Bridges Management Board* met regularly to steer the project implementation and give visibility to the programme.
- *Programme's result-oriented evaluation conducted* including possible recommendations for a follow-up project.

### 3.4 Activities:

#### A. *Approx. 10 direct grant agreements with the EU cultural institutes, €6 million*

Approx. 10 grant agreements will be signed with EU cultural institutes present in Turkey, in order to implement large-scale multinational '*CSD – Cultural Bridges*' projects. The EU cultural institutes, acting as project leader, will be responsible for the management of the project; they must involve at least one Turkish cultural actor as partner in the project.

If a Member State is not represented with a cultural institute in Turkey, it may cooperate either with partner organisations or team up with other EU Member States. However, sufficient operational capacity in Turkey must be demonstrated to implement multinational activities.

The agreements will be drawn up following a call for expression of interest. The total amount reserved is €6 million. The indicative minimum amount reserved per direct grant agreement is €300.000 and the maximum €1,5 million. The duration of the projects is envisaged to be up to 30 months.

The agreements will support multinational cultural activities with a high degree of visibility. All aspects of contemporary arts - music, performing arts, plastic and visual arts and literature - can be part of the activities. The activities financed by the direct grant agreements should include an element of mobility of artists, creative practitioners, works of art, and/or address intercultural dialogue. Moreover, they must be multinational in character. Activities should take place in Turkey and may to some extent also take place in the EU with the participation of Turkish artists.

The cultural institutes, acting as project leaders, are expected to contribute to the action by providing offices, human resources, as well as administrative costs necessary for the management of the project activities. The purchase of equipment necessary for the action must be less than 5% of the total costs.

*B. Cultural Bridges Management Board: technical assistance €500.000 (service contract)*

*A Cultural Bridges Management Board* comprised of reputable artists from the EU and Turkey and high-level Turkish government and EU officials will provide advice and visibility to the *CSD Cultural Bridges* programme. It will also ensure the multicultural European character of the project activities.

The day-to-day management of the programme will be supervised by a *Cultural Bridges working group committee* made up of experts from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the CFCU and the EC Delegation.

*A technical assistance team (TAT)* will assist these bodies in their work, organise their meetings, and as well as promote the overall programme.

*C. Programme evaluation: €100.000 (service contract)*

The *CSD Cultural Bridges* programme will be evaluated by external evaluator. The evaluation should look at the results achieved and provide an assessment of its efficiency and effectiveness.

3.5 Conditionality: N/A

Sequencing: 1) Direct grants 2) Management board TA 3) Evaluation TA

3.6 Linked activities

*Small Projects Programme: Strengthening Civil Society Dialogue* was de facto the first initiative to start the Civil Society Dialogue with Turkey. The programme supported the broad goal of deepening dialogue and enhancing mutual understanding between civil society in Turkey and the EU Member States with approx. €750.000. 17 projects were carried out with partners in 13 countries. These projects cover a variety of issues,

including youth, business community dialogue, minority rights, regional development and disabled persons.

*Civil Society Dialogue - Europa-Bridges of Knowledge* programme aimed to develop expertise and training capacity for the adoption and implementation of the *acquis* by supporting the appropriate efforts to this end of the universities, professional associations, think-tanks and other civil society groups. Approx. €2 million was made available under this programme which provided for the implementation of 27 projects.

*Promotion of the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue*: This 2006 grant scheme facility aims to establish a framework for cooperation, support partnerships and promote dialogue between Turkish and EU towns & municipalities, professional organisations, universities and youth initiatives. In total, €21.5 million has been reserved under this programme. In order to qualify for funding, partnerships between organisations based in Turkey as well as in the EU Member States and/or other candidate countries are required.

*Civil Society Dialogue - Culture in Action*: Projects selected under this grant scheme focus either on providing information on the EU integration process to enable active involvement of the Turkish public in EU related matters and/or raising interest in different aspects of European culture and arts as an expression of the EU's multicultural identity. €1.45 million has been reserved for the programme. The mandatory partnership rule encouraged Turkish NGOs to liaise with their EU counterparts, reflecting, to a certain extent, the multicultural character of Europe.

The purpose of the *EU-Turkish Chamber Forum* is to develop a sustainable dialogue and strengthen bilateral cooperation between Turkish and EU Chambers of Commerce and Industry, with a view to enhance the service capacity of Turkish Chambers and to strengthen their role in the EU-Turkish integration process. €4.5 million is set aside for the programme which is managed jointly by EUROCHAMBRES and TOBB (The Union of Turkish Chambers and Commodity Exchanges).

*Civil Society Dialogue Among Trade Unions* programme aims to create and/or enhance sustainable dialogue between the workers of Turkey and EU member states. . It was decided that the partners in this project will be the four national trade union confederations from Turkey and from seven EU countries (France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Sweden and Greece). The contacts that will be created between the workers' representatives will favour ongoing communication based on networks, with the aim of overcoming existing prejudices and creating conditions for acceptance on both sides. Approximately €3.5 million has been reserved for this programme.

### 3.7 Lessons learned

The enlargement of the EU to twelve new Member States further strengthened the unity of the European continent and enhanced peace, stability and security. However, one of the lessons that can be drawn from the previous enlargement is that citizens in EU Member States and candidate countries were not sufficiently informed nor prepared. Any future enlargement of the EU needs to be supported by a strong, deep and sustained dialogue between the societies of the candidate countries and in the EU Member States, as well as with the EU institutions. This would help to bridge the information gap,



achieve better mutual knowledge and bring citizens and different cultures, political and economic systems closer together, thus ensuring a stronger awareness of the opportunities as well as the challenges of future accessions.

A variety of support programmes have been launched since the Commission Communication on the Civil Society Dialogue with candidate countries in June 2005. Although early for a sustained assessment, it already seems as if the programmes did not receive the public visibility to become widely known in Turkey and the EU. The direct involvement of EU cultural institutes in the Civil Society Dialogue as well as the Cultural Bridges Management Board will help address this visibility issue with regard to the Civil Society Dialogue.

#### 4. Indicative Budget (amounts in €)

H	TOTAL PUBLIC COST	SOURCES OF FUNDING										
		EU CONTRIBUTION				NATIONAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION						PRI VAT E
		Total	% *	IB	inv	To tal	Type of cofinancin g (J / P) **	% *	Cent ral	Regi onal	IFIs	
<u>H</u> Activities												
<u>H</u> Direct grants	6.000.000	6.000.000	100	6.000.000								
<u>H</u> Technical ass.	500.000	500.000	100	500.000								
<u>H</u> Programme evaluation	100.000	100.000	100	100.000								
<u>H</u>												
<b><u>H</u>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.600.000</b>	<b>6.600.000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.600.000</b>								

H\*\* compulsory for INV (minimum of 25 % of total EU + national public contribution) :

Joint cofinancing (J) as the rule, parallel

Hco financing (P) per exception

H\* expressed in % of the Total

Public Cost

*H*

#### 5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Contract Completion
<u>H</u> Contract 1		3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2010
<u>H</u> Contract 2	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2008	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2010
Contract 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2010	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2010

All projects should in principle be ready for tendering in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter following the signature of the FA.

## 6. Cross cutting issues (where applicable)

### 6.1 Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity must be respected throughout the programme activities.

### 6.2 Environment

### 6.3 Minority and vulnerable group

While the project does not directly target minorities and vulnerable groups, programme activities should ensure that they are not excluded in the activities, be it by way of their active involvement or passive participation (easy access etc.).

## ANNEXES

- 1- Log frame in Standard Format
- 2- Amounts contracted and Disbursed per Quarter over the full duration of Programme
- 3 - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:
  - Reference list of relevant laws and regulations
  - Reference to AP /NPAA / EP / SAA
  - Reference to MIPD
  - Reference to National Development Plan
  - Reference to national / sector investment plans
- 4- Details per EU funded contract (\*) where applicable:
  - For *TA contracts*: account of tasks expected from the contractor
  - For *twinning covenants*: account of tasks expected from the team leader, resident twinning advisor and short term experts
  - For *grants schemes*: account of components of the schemes
  - For *investment contracts*: reference list of feasibility study as well as technical specifications and cost price schedule + section to be filled in on investment criteria (\*\*)

For *works contracts*: reference list of feasibility study for the *constructing works* part of the contract as well as a section on investment criteria (\*\*); account of services to be carried out for the *service part* of the contract

(\*) non standard aspects (in case of derogation to PRAG) also to be specified

(\*\*) section on investment criteria (applicable to all infrastructure contracts and constructing works):

- Rate of return
- Co financing
- compliance with state aids provisions
- Ownership of assets (current and after project completion)

**ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format**

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche		Programme name and number	
<i>Civil Society Dialogue: Cultural Bridges</i>			
		Contracting period ) expires	Disbursement period expires
		Total budget : <b>€6.600.000</b>	IPA budget: €6.600.000
<b>Overall objective</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	
Promotion of a cultural dialogue and understanding between civil societies in Turkey and the EU Member States	Increased and improved intercultural dialogue between Turkey and EU as well as enhanced public awareness of and visibility for the CSD	EC Regular Report; external ex-post evaluation report on the programmes; public opinion polls and press	
<b>Project purpose</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
Establishment of cultural institutes/EU Member States as leading actors in the EU-Turkey CSD through support for multinational cultural projects with high visibility	Successful implementation and sustainability of actions	EC Reporting; external ex-post evaluation report on the programmes; public opinion polls and media reports	Cultural institutes have sufficient capacity/ strengths to increase visibility of CSD and give it a more permanent structure
<b>Results</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
CSD strengthened and new bridges and contacts in the cultural domain built	Number of cultural events as well as media coverage on them under the framework of the Civil Society Dialogue increased noticeably	Project reports and EC Delegation's regular press reviews	Sufficient interest by EU Member States/cultural institutes
Public visibility of the EU-Turkey CSD increased	Civil society organisations in Turkey are more familiar with the CSD initiative through project activities/events and media coverage of programme and meetings of the high level Management Board	EC Delegation's press reviews; local and national media; CSD website (usage)	Sufficient interest of Turkish press in the project activities

Cultural institutes play active role in the implementation of the EU-Turkey CSD	Member States' cultural institutes became focal points for CSD activities in the cultural sphere; complementary to their bilateral programmes, they begun to implement multilateral activities and actively promote the dialogue; Member States not yet represented in Turkey consider opening their own cultural offices	Meetings of the EU Civil Society working group and CSD Cultural Bridges management board; project reports; cultural institutes' websites	Sufficient interest in the programme
Increased ownership by key stakeholders	EU Member States and cultural institutes closely involved in the CSD and contribute through the implementation of a direct grant agreements; awareness among diplomats increased	Project implementation; attendance of relevant working groups; number of information requests	Sufficient diplomatic staffing and interest of EU member states
High-level management board established and associated with the programme	CSD Cultural Bridges management board met regularly to steer the project implementation	Frequency and minutes of management board meetings; press articles	Availability of reputable artists and high-level officials
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Means</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
Cultural institutes implement large-scale multinational CSD – <i>Cultural Bridges</i> projects	Approx. 10 direct agreements	Total of € 6 M (min. €300.000, max. € 1,5M per grant)	Interest of cultural institutes to participate in the programme
Technical Assistance Team provides support for the management board and promotion of the project	Services contract	€500.000	High level management board established and direct agreements signed
Project evaluation	Service contract	€100.000	