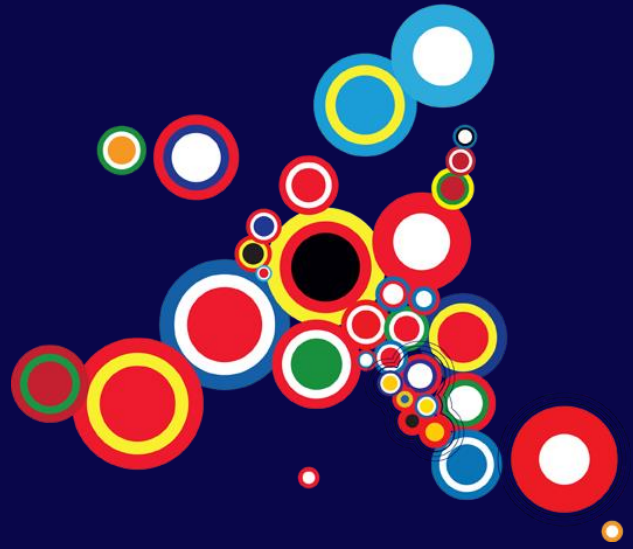




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

TURKEY

Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2016 - 2017



Action summary

The action includes two separate packages of activities:

Under the 2016 allocation, the action aims to improve the environment for active citizenship and to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens. The action will contribute to an improvement in the enjoyment of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association; to an enhanced capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) to benefit from public and private funding mechanisms; to a more effective mobilisation of support from citizens and decision-makers by organised citizens; and to more effective civil society networks, information sharing, and collaboration.

Under the 2017 allocation, considering the evolving context in which civil society organisations are operating in Turkey, the action will focus on the promotion of active citizenship, capacity-building of and support to civil society organisations for the promotion and protection of human rights. It is composed of four intertwined activities targeting various categories of civil society organisations, including independent media, at the local, regional and national levels.

The action proposes innovative and flexible tools to answer the needs of civil society in Turkey, going away from the standard project approach. It ensures the EU a very high visibility and shows its repeated commitment to support civil society, including at a grass-root level, in Turkey.

Action Identification	
Action Programme Title	Civil Society Facility and media 2016-2017
Action Title	Civil Society Facility Turkey
Action ID	IPA 2016/038-960.08/CSF & Media/Turkey IPA 2017/038-961.08/CSF & Media/Turkey
Sector Information	
IPA II Sector	Democracy and governance – sub-sector civil society
DAC Sector	15150 – Democratic participation and civil society
Budget	
Total cost	2016: EUR 10.0 million 2017: EUR 16.0 million
EU contribution	2016: EUR 10.0 million 2017: EUR 16.0 million
Budget line(s)	22.020401
Management and Implementation	
Management mode	Direct
<i>Direct management:</i> EU Delegation <i>Indirect management:</i> National authority or other entrusted entity	Delegation of the European Union to Turkey
Implementation responsibilities	N/A
Location	
Zone benefiting from the action	Turkey
Specific implementation area(s)	N/A
Timeline	
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	N.A.
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management	N.A.
Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	IPA 2016: 31 December 2017 IPA 2017: 31 December 2018

Final date for operational implementation	IPA 2016: 31 December 2021 IPA 2017: 31 December 2022		
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-committed and closed)	N.A.		
Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)			
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Aid to environment	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Development	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A - ALLOCATION 2016

A1. RATIONALE

Strengthening civil society is a core part of the Political Criteria for accession. As such, it also corresponds to essential and closely interlinked elements of the Enlargement Strategy and a crucial area that is regularly monitored in the Progress Report. Indeed, a more dynamic civil society can contribute to the accession process, becoming more than just a technical process between the candidate country and the EU and to sustain public support for accession.

The 'Civil Society Facility' (CSF) was set up in 2008 to financially support the development of civil society. Contributing to anchoring democratic values and structures, human rights, social inclusion and the rule of law, thereby supporting the EU integration process, the CSF is supported since 2014 by the **DG NEAR "Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020"**.

The rationale and justification for this action is therefore based on the EU priority clearly stated in many different strategic and policy documents, to uphold fundamental rights and encourage democratic participation as well as civil society strengthening. The interventions under this IPA II Civil Society Facility (CSF) Turkey window programme will be complementary to those of the IPA national programmes, which are mostly concentrating on capacity building of public authorities in working with civil society, on the cooperation between civil society and public authorities and on the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue; and which are implemented under indirect management by the beneficiary country (IMBC). The EIDHR, on the contrary, is specifically focusing its very limited resources on supporting specialised Human Rights Organisations which are active on the most delicate human rights issues.

In 2010 and 2011, two major consultations of civil society were carried out by the EU Delegation. These consultations were done on-line and through meetings in over 11 cities in Turkey. Overall more than 730 organisations and individuals were involved. The consultations focused on how the EU could improve its support to Civil Society in Turkey. As a result of these processes:

1. A set of **Guiding Principles for EU Support to Civil Society in Turkey** were adopted. These principles identify two priorities for future support to Civil Society in Turkey: a) improvement of the environment for active citizenship; b) strengthening capacity of organised active citizenship. The Guiding Principles encourage a multi-annual approach to support civil society development, in line with the existing strategy and programming documents.
2. The first phase of "Sivil Düşün" was designed under the IPA I Civil Society Facility (CSF) Turkey window programme.

These consultation exercises continued in 2013, 2014 and 2015 under "Sivil Düşün". Indeed the Technical Assistance Team that was contracted – among other tasks - helped the EUD to sustain the kicked-off dialogue with platforms/networks, CSOs and activists from all over Turkey.

The present action design includes therefore civil society comments and inputs as gathered during the comprehensive consultation processes of the last six years.

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Effective pluralism implies the respect for human rights, the rule of law and the possibility for political change. Civil society activities - often defined as primarily non-state, non-business and non-private activities - mirror this pluralism. They encourage citizens to organise themselves and to collaborate in their common interest. A thriving civil society contributes to a more open, participatory and consequently a more dynamic democratic society.

Through its advocacy activities, civil society can help ensure that accession negotiations between the candidate country institutions and the EU are not merely technical discussions. The Accession negotiation process will only be successful when it is supported by citizens who understand the necessary institutional, political and economic changes.

In 2015, there are over 108,000 associations in Turkey, with a total of over 10,034,000 members. The absolute majority, 80,71%, of these are men and only 19,28% are women. Professional organisations, sport clubs, religious organisations and solidarity associations are the most prevalent. In addition, there are over 4,800 foundations; they are mostly asset-based and/or raise funds and new foundations mainly concentrate on education, health and charity.

Despite the uneven geographic distribution, civil society organisations are active in all of Turkey's provinces. There is a marked concentration of CSOs in the urban areas. According to data provided by the Department of Associations, 33,9% of associations are established in Marmara region.

With regard to the legal environment in which CSOs operate, despite improvements in by-laws, many bureaucratic obstacles remain with, in particular, operation, funding and in some cases the legal establishment, for example:

- there continue to be heavy fines or severe punishments for failing to comply with the Law on Associations and its regulations;
- there is still an administrative requirement to notify authorities before receiving financial support from abroad;
- at times inspections of those CSOs receiving financial support from abroad are disproportionate; the legal framework for the collection of donations and tax exemptions for CSOs remains to be improved;
- the procedures to obtain the status of public benefit that allows donors to deduct grants from their taxes remain problematic and hence are granted to few CSOs ; grants by employees - as opposed to institutions - are effectively not tax-deductible.

Participatory governance supportive of active citizenship is another area that remains to be strengthened. Systematic stakeholder consultation would underpin transparency, the ownership by individuals and thus the sustainability of legislative processes including the accession process. Overall, the legal framework on associations is broadly in line with European standards. However, considerable progress needs to be made as regards its implementation as associations still face disproportionate scrutiny of their activities, which in some cases has led to judicial proceedings.

In terms of the financial environment, it is worth noting that the financial resources of CSOs depend largely on philanthropy, and actions funded through philanthropy concentrate on social or educational activities. As mentioned above, fund-raising/aid collection is bound by too heavy bureaucratic requirements. This is also true for donations provided to associations by international donors.

The majority of the rights-based CSOs single out the lack of funding as their biggest problem, which forces them to direct most of their energy and resources to fund-raising. Hence, the dearth of financial resources available emerges as a major challenge. There may be a potential for increased private grants to organisations promoting active citizenship.

With regard to capacities, organised citizens' activities are often limited by institutional management systems, human resources and weak external relations of their organisations as well as their generally weak membership base. The absence of a law on volunteering actually does not encourage CSOs to effectively make the most out of volunteers' work (e.g. risking being fined for undeclared employment).

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

Sector approach under IPA II assistance in Turkey foresees tackling previously mentioned problems and needs in two indispensable and complementary ways: (1) through actions under the civil society sub-sector under the coordination of the Ministry of EU Affairs and (2) in mainstreaming civil society participation throughout all sectors.

Besides, the possibility to programme and implement IPA II actions under both IMBC and Direct Management allows for a comprehensive approach. The present action document covers only the directly managed part and will therefore complement what is currently programmed under IPA II 2014, 2015 and 2016..

In that respect, in line with the objectives related to civil society stated in the CSP, the Guidelines for EU support to civil society and the SPD, the present action to be covered under 2016 allocation will contribute to the following results:

- Freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association are enjoyed fully and effectively
- Improved capacity of CSOs to benefit from public and private funding mechanisms.
- Organised citizens are more often supported by citizens and decision-makers and more effectively use this support.
- Organised citizens more effectively network, share information and collaborate.

To do so, the action branded in Turkey as "Sivil Düşün" will be composed of a grant scheme to strengthen networking capacities and sustainable platforms, a tailored networking and visibility support and a direct agreement with the Resource Centre. See details below.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

Under IPA II, it has been agreed that Civil Society would be a relevant sector in Turkey to focus the assistance.

As stated in the **Country Strategy Paper (CSP)**, the three Civil Society sector priority areas are: (1) to support the development of civil society through more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes; (2) promote a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue; (3) enhance civil society dialogue and inter-cultural exchange between civil societies in Turkey and Europe.

The present action specifically answers the first and second priorities of the CSP as it aims to improve the environment for active citizenship and to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens.

Besides, the **Enlargement Strategy** (COM(2015) 611 final of 10.11.2015) highlighted the fact that "*A stronger role for civil society organisations and a much more supportive and enabling environment to foster their development is needed in the enlargement countries. This is necessary to enhance political accountability and promote deeper understanding of accession related reforms. Public understanding of the benefits that the EU has already brought and can bring to the region is vital to encourage political leaders to pursue the required reforms vigorously. Effective communication on how the enlargement process works its implications for citizens' lives remains essential for ensuring public support. This requires a joint effort of the EU and its Member States as well as of the governments and civil society in the enlargement countries.*"

Specifically on Turkey, the Enlargement Strategy stresses that " *Civil society has remained active, growing in numbers and continuing to be involved in many spheres of public life, but restrictions to freedom of assembly remain a serious concern*".

Also, the **EU 2015 Progress Report** stressed the fact that "[...] *in the absence of structured arrangements for their participation, CSOs have frequently not been able to take an active part in the policy and legislative processes.*

Systemic problems, such as restrictions on registering and the procedures for the authorisation and functioning of associations, need to be addressed. A number of CSOs have also continued to see their regular operations challenged through court closure cases, penalties, restrictions or discriminatory practices by public authorities. Restrictions on freedom of assembly remained a problem for segments of civil society (see freedom of association and freedom of assembly).

In some cases, the activities of human rights defenders were also subject to penalties, investigations and court cases.

Current legislation, including tax rules, is not conducive to stimulating private donations to CSOs. Civil society remains financially vulnerable and dependent on public project grants. At the same time, public funding has not been sufficiently transparent."

DG NEAR "Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020" include a set of objectives, results, and indicators for the EU support to civil society which will allow for the measurement of progress at country level as well as among the IPA II beneficiaries. The Guidelines particularly specify that "[s]upport to civil society within the enlargement policy should be focused on enabling and stimulating participatory democracy. This should be reflected in two main goals: achieving an environment that is conducive to civil society activities and building the capacity of CSOs to be effective and accountable independent actors".

Finally, the **10th National Development Plan of Turkey** (2014-2018) points out to the increased role of civil society in solving social problems and supporting development efforts while stressing the substantial regional disparities among regions with respect to the number of CSOs, their membership size and their effectiveness. Therefore, the main objectives in the Plan period are to enhance the democratic participation of CSOs in the decision making processes, to improve the technical and financial capacities of CSOs in order to increase their support to local development initiatives and to promote their project development and implementation capabilities.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Civil society development projects culminated with the establishment of the Civil Society Development Centre (Turkish acronym: STGM) in Ankara in 2004. It has been followed by a series of subsequent EU supports (grant schemes and direct agreements) in the area of civil society strengthening and civil society–public authorities' dialogue and cooperation.

The project "*Strengthening Civil Society Development and Civil Society-Public Sector Cooperation in Turkey*" financed under IPA Programming 2011 - Part I, and its follow-up phase programmed under IPA II Programming 2014, will continue to focus on improving the environment and organisational capacity for civil society and strengthening the capacities of organised active citizens. It also aims at fostering more effective civic participation in policy dialogue and processes at all levels, including a better legal framework for establishing, operating and funding civil society organisations. Moreover, support is provided to the sustainable development of grassroots civil society organisations and newly established organisations and networks.

In parallel, Sivil Düşün EU programme ("*Civil Society Facility Turkey Programme 2011-2013*" and "*Civil Society Facility Turkey Programme 2014-2015*") has proven to be an excellent programme satisfying in content -unfortunately not in size- the majority of EU support expectations of activists, CSOs and

platforms/networks in Turkey. The programme, aiming at improving the environment for active citizenship and strengthening the capacity of organised active citizens, had in the end three components:

1. A grant scheme to provide support to existing or new national, regional, local or thematic platforms and networks through technical assistance, capacity building training, exchange of information and best practices, including re-granting and/or direct in kind support to smaller CSOs and/or members of the network/platform.
2. Advocacy support for interpretation, translation, travel and ad hoc expertise to allow for a broader participation of active citizens in EU activities and of activists from the EU in civil society events in Turkey.
3. A component to raise the awareness of CSOs about the EU support to civil society but also to offer a scene for better sharing of civil society work, activities, events, etc.

Also, the IPA funded "*Civil Society Facility- Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organisations (TACSO)*" is currently implemented in the Western Balkans and Turkey. Via its office in Ankara, which are located under the same roof as the Resource Centre (in Turkey, STGM), the project implements numerous support activities all over Turkey for CSOs and civil society networks and platforms. Capacity building measures and resources overlap with a very strong focus on policy areas, networking and partnership, dialogue between CSOs and other institutions as well as CSO visibility. Several assessments and evaluations incorporating inputs from the civil society in Turkey have been conducted under this project. Those exercises, such as the February 2014 Needs Assessment, are providing a sound basis and a reliable analysis for developing, implementing and monitoring the "Sivil Düşün" EU programme. TACSO Turkey office will close down after summer 2017 and will operate remotely from the regional office only. The scope of Turkey specific activities will have then to be shared between TACSO regional office and the Resource Centre.

Lessons have been learned and early conclusions drawn. Hence, the present Action incorporates best practices but also fine-tunes activities to be more tailored to the needs of activists, CSOs and platforms/networks in Turkey. In particular, one important lesson learned in Turkey that is to be mentioned - and confirmed by "Sivil Düşün" and TACSO reports - is that full funding is a critical condition to ensure outreach to small/grass roots organisations with maximum visibility of EU support.



A2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
To strengthen participatory democracies and the EU integration process in the Western Balkans and Turkey by empowering civil society to actively take part in decision making and by stimulating an enabling legal and financial environment for civil society and pluralistic media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality assessment of existing legislation and policy framework Quality of structures and mechanisms in place for cooperation between CSOs/media and public Institutions 	<p>Independent assessments by I.O. and CSOs</p> <p>Progress reports</p>	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
The specific objective of "Sivil Düşün III" including the support to the Resource Centre is to improve the environment for active citizenship and to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens.	<p>Law on associations and law on collecting aid are amended and annihilate existing obstacles. (EU Guidelines – indicator 1.1.a; Appendix 1 legislative standards and practice standards)¹</p> <p>Activists and citizens are not convicted while exercising their freedom of expression and assembly. (EU Guidelines – indicator 1.1.a; Appendix 1 legislative standards and practice standards)</p> <p>CSOs institutional management systems, human resources and external relations are improved. (EU Guidelines – objectives 4 and 5 - all indicators)</p> <p>CSOs financial sustainability is improved. (EU Guidelines – objective 2 and 6 - all indicators)</p> <p>A law on volunteerism exists and encourages targeting the whole population..(EU Guidelines – result 1.2 - all indicators; result 5.1 - all indicators)</p>	<p>Consultation exercises feedback</p> <p>Monitoring reports of the TA</p> <p>External evaluations</p> <p>Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks</p> <p>CIVICUS reports or equivalent</p> <p>Data of the Ministry of Interior – department of associations</p> <p>Data of the Directorate for Foundations</p> <p>Data provided by TÜİK</p> <p>Other relevant data provided by line ministries</p>	Turkey is committed to full fledge democratic principles as per Copenhagen political criteria
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Result 1: Freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association are enjoyed fully and effectively, especially by rights-based CSOs, networks & platforms and activists, in particular those working on what are today more politically sensitive matters	<p>1.1 Quality assessment of existing legislation and policy framework (EU Guidelines – result 1.1)</p> <p>1.2 Laws are amended and implemented in the sense of greater</p>	<p>1.1 Through independent assessment</p> <p>e.g. Consultation exercises feedback; Monitoring reports of the TA; External</p>	Turkey is committed to improve laws and regulations, and also their implementation in the area of Freedoms of expression, peaceful

¹ "Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014 2020" version of June 2015 (final) including appendix 1 on standards

	<p>freedom of expression, assembly and association (EU Guidelines – result 1.1)</p>	<p>evaluations; Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks, etc.</p> <p>1.2 Assessment through DG Enlargement's annual Progress Report</p> <p>Other relevant data provided by line ministries</p>	<p>assembly and association.</p> <p>Both public authorities and CSOs are willing to engage in dialogue and cooperation.</p> <p>Private donors are willing to support civil society beyond "classical" education and social related programmes.</p> <p>Public authorities' funds are granted in a fair, transparent and equal manner.</p> <p>CSOs are willing to collaborate among themselves and also to create networks and platforms.</p> <p>Individuals are willing to volunteer.</p> <p>Media are open to promote all sorts of civil society work</p>
<p>Result 2: Improved capacity of CSOs to benefit from public and private funding mechanisms.</p>	<p>2.1 Number of employees in CSO (permanent and part-time) (EU Guidelines – benchmark 1.2.a, b and c)</p> <p>2.2 Number and kind of donations to CSOs from individual and corporate donors (specified in monetary values) (EU Guidelines – benchmark 2.2.a)</p> <p>2.3 Percentage of CSOs benefiting from tax incentives (EU Guidelines – benchmark 2.2.a; indicator 2.3.a)</p> <p>2.4 Government support to CSOs is available and provided in a transparent, accountable, fair and non-discriminatory manner (EU Guidelines – result 2.4, all indicators)</p>	<p>2.1 National registries/surveys (e.g. Data of the Ministry of Interior – department of associations; Data of the Directorate for Foundations; Data provided by TÜİK; etc.)</p> <p>2.2 Data from Ministry of Finance, Department of Associations, DG for Foundations, other CSO reports.</p> <p>2.3 Central Registries</p> <p>2.4 Survey</p>	<p></p>

<p>Result 3: Organised citizens are more often supported by citizens and decision-makers and more effectively use this support.</p>	<p>3.1 Public institutions recognise the importance of CSOs in improving good governance through CSOs' inclusion in decision making processes (EU Guidelines – result 3.1, all indicators)</p> <p>3.2 Number of volunteers both female and male in CSOs per type of CSO / sector (EU Guidelines – in particular benchmark 1.2.b)</p> <p>3.3 Increase in the number of public campaigns organised by organised citizens (EU Guidelines – linked to result 1.1.b – appendix 1 "practice standard")</p>	<p>3.1 national registry and / or information from national government and surveys with CSOs (Department for Cooperation with CSOs and Secretariat for European Integration)</p> <p>3.1 Future IPA programming documents and activities</p> <p>3.2 Surveys/ CIVICUS reports and other CSOs' reports</p> <p>3.2 Ministry of Labour, EU Progress report , State Statistical Office, State registers/research, CSO data</p> <p>3.3 Independent assessments e.g. Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÚSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks, CIVICUS reports</p>	
<p>Result 4: Organised citizens more effectively network, share information and collaborate</p>	<p>4.1 Share of CSOs taking part in local, national, regional and international networks (EU Guidelines – result 5 in particular benchmark 5.3.a)</p> <p>4.2 Increase in the number of joint public campaigns</p>	<p>4.1 and 4.2. Survey and independent assessments e.g. CIVICUS reports, platforms and networks reports.</p>	

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

In order to address the issues mentioned in the Logframe matrix above, the needs and concerns of civil society in Turkey have been clearly identified during the consultation processes mentioned under part 1 ("Rationale"). The consultation process undertaken with civil society in Turkey is expected to continue on a regular basis (at least annually) in order to review and confirm priorities for action, sequencing and financial allocations throughout the whole implementation period.

From an operational viewpoint, activities will be designed along the below lines:

Activity 1: Sivil Düşün grant scheme to support networking and sustainable platforms (to contribute to Result 4 foremost, but also to Results 1, 2 and 3)

This grant scheme is designed so that organised citizens can effectively network, share information and collaborate. Grants delivered will allow for a financial support to long-term partnerships among the members of the platforms and networks.

This grant scheme will support existing or new national, regional², local or thematic platforms and networks through technical assistance, capacity building training, exchange of information and best practices, including sub-granting and/or direct in kind support to smaller CSOs and/or members of the network/platform.

This grant scheme will respond to the needs expressed by CSOs during consultation processes about longer-term (multi-annual) EU support to networks and platforms, allowing for moving away from a "standard project approach".

The call for proposals will be tentatively launched in 2017 with a view to have tentatively 6 to 10 grants involving platforms and networks of CSOs and/or initiatives. In order to support needs of both national and local/(multi)provincial networks (whether thematic or cross-cutting), the possibility of establishing separate lots should remain open. This could allow for relatively bigger grants to be awarded to national networks and smaller grants to encourage the creation and/or to strengthen existing local/(multi-) provincial networks. Priorities, budgets, possible lots, number grants, etc. will be confirmed through follow-up consultations with civil society.

Yet, this grant scheme is designed to support rights-based activities and rights-based work of networks and platforms. It will give priority to what are considered today by civil society the most "politically sensitive" matters in Turkey (e.g. minority rights, gender, cultural rights, freedom of media and of expression, etc.), therefore covered with difficulties by IMBC IPA funded activities. An effort will be made to encourage a wide geographical coverage, as well as different scope and thematics.

EU co-financing up to 100%: the multi-annual approach calls for moving away from the traditional project co-financing approach. One of the main reasons for this is that coordination of a network/platform requires an organisation/some organisations of the group to take(s) over the secretariat and coordination tasks. This is an additional burden that is not necessarily part of their mandate and included in their individual fund raising activities. That is why, in this context, it/they should be relieved of the financial burden related to these additional tasks that go beyond pure content related activities. Besides, the fact the coordination tasks are financially covered in total by the grants will enhance the possibility for inclusive ways of working (e.g. less likely to limit the numbers of members due to an increasing co-funding, rotating secretariat among members

² In the sense of regions within Turkey

of the platform/network, etc.). Hence, the grants under this Activity will be financed in full as made possible within Art. 192 of the financial regulations.

Activity 2: Sivil Düşün tailored networking support and visibility (to contribute to Result 4 foremost, but also to Results 1, 2 and 3)

In order to respond to the needs expressed by CSOs during the consultation processes, support to the strengthening of advocacy and networking capacity of civil society actors will be delivered through a service contract.

Furthermore, to contribute to fully and effectively enjoyed freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, this activity is designed in a way that rights-based activities will be supported giving priority to what are considered today by civil society as the most "politically sensitive" matters in Turkey (e.g. minority rights, gender, cultural rights, freedom of media and of expression, etc.) and therefore hardly covered by IMBC IPA funded activities.

This is foreseen in a way so as to tentatively support (1) activists, (2) platforms and networks ad hoc capacity building needs and (3) rights-based CSO led/organised cultural events. This will be implemented by providing operational in-kind support e.g. interpretation, translation, travel and ad hoc expertise (including legal, psychological and medical support), support to CSOs capacities to work with volunteers, researches, surveys and studies carried by CSOs, CSO visibility (e.g. audio, visual and printed materials, websites, events, campaigns, etc.) etc. to allow for a broader participation of active citizens in EU activities and of activists from the EU in civil society events in Turkey.

This activity will respond to the needs expressed by the civil society during the consultation processes and therefore will give priority to rights-based activities and to rights-based CSOs led/organised events. In particular, it is designed considering the lessons learned during "Sivil Düşün I and II" i.e. the need for a much bigger support in terms of amount (due to the very high capacity of absorption in Turkey), as well as the need for separate lots/groups of actors in order to reach properly the set objectives.

Besides the networking support, this activity will also raise awareness of CSOs about the EU support to Civil Society through "Sivil Düşün" and ensure the visibility of its different components. It will create fora and provide a scene for civil society work exchange and visibility (e.g. reports, events, promotion, etc.), allowing for even greater connections and synergies among activists, CSOs and platforms/networks. This will moreover include consultation mechanisms to both steer activities implemented under this action document but also more generally steer EU support to civil society in Turkey.

Activity 3: Support to the Resource Centre (to contribute to Results 1, 2, 3 and 4)

As touched upon under part 1 under "Lessons learned and link to previous financial assistance" above, the EU has supported the Technical Assistance to Civil Society Organisations (TACSO) Project since 2009 under the Civil Society Facility (CSF), in order to achieve a strengthened civil society and to stimulate a civil society-friendly environment and culture in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

TACSO is currently implementing a sustainability strategy/exit strategy at national level via partnership with "Resource Centres". The partnership to deliver TACSO services aims to ensure capacity of local partner CSOs to sustain TACSO functions at national level after the completion of TACSO II, in August 2017.

In Turkey, the Resource Centre is currently run by the Civil Society Development Centre (STGM)³. To-date, STGM is the only organisation capable of effectively operating in the field of activity of the Resource Centre by virtue of consideration of the following facts:

- STGM has specialised exclusively in providing support to civil society organisations and it is still to date the only civil society actor capable of effectively delivering tailor-made and help-desk support to grassroots CSOs all over the country, from a rights-based perspective.
- STGM is also widely recognised as having a leading role regarding capacity building of CSOs at national level. This technical expertise has proven to be crucial, particularly taking into consideration that the current legal framework regulating CSO operations in Turkey is complex, restrictive, and very bureaucratic. Especially regulations regarding state inspections on CSOs are mainly focused on limitations, defining penalties and sanctions that do not seem to meet the principle of proportionality.
- Despite legal limitations related to the creation of networks and platforms in Turkey, STGM is the only organisation that manages to operate as a quasi NGO umbrella organisation, giving it the strategic advantage of covering a wide range of policy sectors (the founding members (and board members) of STGM are prominent representatives of CSOs working on environment, gender, children, culture, human rights, disaster preparedness, education, etc.).
- It is important to underline that CSOs in Turkey, particularly those that are rights-based, currently operate in a difficult political context. As underlined in the 2015 Progress Report, there have been growing pressures on freedom of expression, as well as increasing restrictions in the sphere of freedom of association based on security concerns and the need of combating terrorism.

Activities of the Resource Centre shall include:

- Capacity building support to CSOs according to EU Guidelines result areas (including producing information, help desk services, coaching, trainings, thematic, inter sectorial and intra sectorial events, information meetings targeting all levels of actors from civil society).
- Promoting freedom of association in Turkey via information campaigns but also through lobbying activities.
- Monitoring of the EU Guidelines in Turkey and facilitation of dialogue of key stakeholders.
- Facilitation of civil society contribution to EU accession process in cooperation with EU and key stakeholders.

In addition to regional TACSO III interventions, STGM will also complement regional activities (e.g. in covering for participation costs for additional participants to regional events organised by TACSO III,

³ STGM was established in 2004 by a wide group of civil society activists, following the completion of the first long-term EU Technical Assistance Programme for CSOs in Turkey. The mission of STGM, targeting the attainment of a strong and democratic civil society, is to carry out advocacy, campaign, research, training and lobbying activities in its priority target areas in order to ensure the development of participation and democracy; strengthen the organisational capacity and autonomy of civil society and make the voice of civil society heard in decision making processes.

replication of regional trainings in Turkey, mobility of key stakeholders from EU and the IPA region to meet Turkish counterparts and vice-versa, etc.).

EU co-financing up to 100%: STGM will be the direct beneficiary of a grant agreement with full contractual responsibility (both financial and technical). The final beneficiaries will be the supported civil society organisations – STGM's sole mission for the last 10 years. It will take over, as described in TACSO sustainability strategy, the implementation of services to CSOs that were formerly carried out by TACSO. In the current ever challenging context for civil society work, STGM, as the only civil society organisation capable of carrying out Resource Centre activities in an impartial manner in Turkey at all levels and geographical scopes, will be, thanks to a financing in full, preserved from uncertainties and legal environment related risks. That is how and why STGM will be able to implement those specific activities related to its CSOs support role in a flexible and timely way. Art 192 of the financial regulations that allows for financing in full will be therefore applied.

RISKS

The following assumptions can be made:

- Turkey is committed to improve the laws and regulations as well as their implementation in the areas of freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
- Both public authorities and CSOs are willing to engage in dialogue and cooperation.
- Private donors are willing to support civil society beyond "classical" education and social related programmes.
- Public funds are granted in a fair, transparent and equal manner.
- CSOs are willing to collaborate among themselves and to create networks and platforms.
- Individuals are willing to volunteer.
- Media are open to promote different sorts of civil society work.
- Media professional organisations and CSOs advocating for media freedoms might not come forward with project proposals fearing the general negative political atmosphere

Risks can be summarised and mitigated as follows:

- The degree of participation/involvement of participants is often difficult to assess beforehand. Everything possible should be made to create the necessary conditions (adequate material, rooms, audio-visual aids, etc.) to allow for such an active participation.
- Political developments in Turkey and in the region may affect the involvement of public organisations and other stakeholders.
- Other risks to consider at a more general level are: relevant qualified staff does not participate in the events; the location of the project activities is no longer available for reasons beyond control; trainers/facilitators/participants do not arrive due to acts of nature, security related issues, strike, etc.

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

All necessary conditions for the successful implementation of the proposed Action are already in place.

A3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

"Sivil Düşün" Steering Committee (SC):

A Steering Committee (SC) will be established to provide guidance on all aspects of "Sivil Düşün" implementation. It will be composed of the EU, the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) contracted under Activity 2, a TACSO representative if any could join, a STGM representative, and representatives of NGOs with experience on implementing civil society development related programmes (approx. 5 selected through an open call for interest with the aim to have gender balanced representation). Other organisations/institutions may be identified by the Steering Committee in the course of implementation, if deemed necessary.

The Committee will meet every three months to discuss and evaluate the progress of the action. The EU will chair the meetings. The organisation and logistics will be covered by the TAT. The agenda and the minutes of the meetings will be drafted by the TAT based on indications from the EUD and the other SC members.

"Sivil Düşün" Advisory Committee (AC):

The EU will set up an Advisory Committee at the beginning of the project. It will be composed of a gender balanced group of representatives of the CSO community and individuals actively working in civil society. The Ministry for EU Affairs and other relevant Turkish authorities will be invited to participate as observers to these Committee meetings.

The main aim of the Advisory Committee will be to assess the activities of "Sivil Düşün" and give recommendations and suggestions for improvement. It will also have a role in coordinating the various EU support instruments for civil society (Civil Society Facility, support under the national programme for civil society development and civil society dialogue, and EIDHR), with a view to explore synergies and to avoid overlaps and duplications, and to ensure the adequate provision of information.

The Advisory Committee will meet every six months. Approximately 100 CSO representatives will be invited to take part in the working of the Advisory Committee meetings. The organisation and logistics will be covered by the TAT and STGM will be a co-host.

Broader Open Consultations:

The consultation process launched in 2010 and their follow-up will be continued and more closely linked to the implementation of "Sivil Düşün". This forum will be consulted on a yearly basis in conjunction with the milestones of "Sivil Düşün" implementation. The inputs of consulted CSOs, together with that of the Advisory Committee will be recorded, published and used by the SC for confirming and fine-tuning the design of "Sivil Düşün". The organisation and logistics will be covered by the TAT and STGM will be associated to the process.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

A grant scheme and a service contract will be awarded according to EU rules and procedures for external actions.

A direct grant agreement will be signed with STGM as the Resource Centre.

As previously mentioned under part 2 "Description of the activities", both the grants and the direct agreement will be financed in full as per Art 192 of the financial regulations.

Support provided under all activities of this action will be designed to address the capacity building needs of grassroots CSOs. In all activities, specific effort will be made to simplify procedures as much as possible, and to ensure user-friendly mechanisms allowing as fast a response as possible to the applicants. Also, special attention will be paid to the use of Turkish language, whenever possible, in communication and applications to support schemes under the action.

This bottom-up participatory approach is supported by the results of the consultations indicating that rights-based organisations should be given the priority.

CSOs in Turkey will continue to be consulted throughout the whole implementation of "Sivil Düşün".

A4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

The European Commission may carry out a mid-term, a final or an ex-post evaluation for this Action or its components via independent consultants, through a joint mission or via an implementing partner. In case a mid-term or final evaluation is not foreseen, the European Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner. The evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines for evaluations. In addition, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules.

The activities under this action document will be monitored and evaluated in two ways at least using, **among other tools, the set of indicators provided above in the Lograme matrix:**

1. internal monitoring and evaluation by the TA (i.e. under Activity 2)
2. external monitoring by independent experts, hired by DG Enlargement, in charge of monitoring the implementation of the "Guidelines for EU support to civil society in Enlargement countries, 2014-2020".

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
<i>CSP indicator(s) – if applicable</i>						
Action outcome indicator1: To improve the environment for active citizenship and to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens.	<p>Law on associations and law on collecting aid are amended and annihilate existing obstacles.</p> <p>Activists and citizens are not threatened by possible disproportionate use of force while exercising their freedom of expression and assembly.</p> <p>CSOs institutional management systems, human resources and external relations are improved.</p> <p>CSOs financial sustainability is improved.</p>	<p>Current law and its implementation create obstacles</p> <p>Several cases are reported in PR 2015</p> <p>See part 2 of below baseline study</p> <p>0% of CSOs stated that they did not have any donors in the past year, 4% had one</p>	N/A	<p>Consultations have taken place to change the laws</p> <p>No case reported in PR 2017</p> <p>Increase by one point on each percentage of the baseline</p> <p>Increase by one point on each percentage of the baseline</p>	<p>The laws are amended</p> <p>No case reported in PR 2020</p> <p>Increase by one point on each percentage of the baseline</p> <p>Increase by 2 points on each percentage of the baseline</p>	<p>Consultation exercises feedback</p> <p>Monitoring reports of the TA</p> <p>External evaluations</p> <p>Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks</p> <p>CIVICUS reports or equivalent</p> <p>Data of the Ministry of Interior – department of associations</p> <p>Data of the Directorate for Foundations</p> <p>Data provided by TÜİK</p> <p>Other relevant data provided by line ministries</p>

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
	A law on volunteerism exists.	donor, 7% had between 2-3 donors, 3% had 4-5 donors, and 24% over 6 donors No law		Consultations are going-on on a draft law	A law is implemented	
<p>Action outcome indicator2: Result 1: Freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association are enjoyed fully and effectively</p> <p>Result 2: Improved capacity of CSOs to benefit from public and private funding mechanisms.</p> <p>Result 3: Organised citizens are more often supported by citizens and decision-makers and more effectively use this support.</p> <p>Result 4: Organised citizens</p>	<p>1.1 Quality assessment of existing legislation and policy framework</p> <p>1.2 Laws are amended and implemented in the sense of greater freedom of expression, assembly and association</p> <p>2.1 Number of employees in CSO (permanent and part-time)</p> <p>2.2 Number and kind of donations to CSOs from individual and corporate donors (specified in monetary values)</p>	<p>1.1 Reports including PR 2015 critical</p> <p>1.2. Laws and their implementation are criticised</p> <p>2.1. No data available for association</p> <p>2.2. 0% of CSOs stated that they did not have any</p>		<p>1.1 Less critical reports</p> <p>1.2. Consultations are taken place on draft laws</p> <p>2.1. data is available</p> <p>2.2. Increase by one point on each percentage of the baseline</p>	<p>1.1 Positive reports</p> <p>1.2. Laws are amended</p> <p>2.1. an increase is witnessed</p> <p>2.2. Increase by two points on each percentage of the</p>	<p>1.1 Through independent assessment e.g. Consultation exercises feedback; Monitoring reports of the TA; External evaluations; Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks, etc.</p> <p>1.2 Assessment through DG NEAR's annual Progress Report Other relevant data provided by line ministries</p> <p>2.1 National registries/surveys (e.g.</p>

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
more effectively network, share information and collaborate	<p>2.3 Percentage of CSOs benefiting from tax incentives</p> <p>2.4 CSO's perception of the provision of funds in terms of transparency, fairness and non-discrimination</p> <p>3.1 Quality* of structures and mechanisms in place for dialogue and cooperation between CSOs and public institutions * in terms of:</p>	<p>donors in the past year, 4% had one donor, 7% had between 2-3 donors, 3% had 4-5 donors, and 24% over 6 donors</p> <p>2.3. 400 associations approx.</p> <p>2.4. Critical reports</p> <p>3.1. No systematic</p>		<p>2.3. The public benefit statute is discussed for reform</p> <p>2.4. Less critical reports</p> <p>3.1. A mechanism is under discussion</p>	<p>baseline</p> <p>2.3. all CSOs working in the benefit of the public are benefiting from tax incentives</p> <p>2.4. Positive reports</p> <p>3.1. There is a systematic</p>	<p>Data of the Ministry of Interior – department of associations; Data of the Directorate for Foundations; Data provided by TÜİK; etc.)</p> <p>2.2 Data from Ministry of Finance, Department of Associations, DG for Foundations, other CSO reports.</p> <p>2.3 Central Registries</p> <p>2.4 Survey</p>

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSO representation in general - representation of smaller/weaker CSOs - its visibility and availability - government perception of quality of structures and mechanisms - CSOs perception of structures and mechanisms <p>3.2 Number of volunteers in CSOs per type of CSO / sector</p> <p>3.3 Increase in the number of public campaigns organised by organised citizens</p> <p>4.1 Share of CSOs taking part in local, national, regional and international networks</p>	<p>mechanism in place</p> <p>3.2. data unavailable – even can be fined</p> <p>3.3 data unavailable</p> <p>4.1. 0% of CSOs indicated that they do not belong to any international network, 17% stated</p>		<p>with CSOs at all public administrative levels</p> <p>3.2. gender disaggregated data is available</p> <p>3.3. data is available</p> <p>4.1. Increase by one point on each percentage of the baseline</p>	<p>established structure for dialogue and cooperation</p> <p>3.2. increased number of volunteers both women and men</p> <p>3.3. increased number</p> <p>4.1. Increase by two points on each percentage of the baseline</p>	<p>3.1 national registry and / or information from national government and surveys with CSOs (Department for Cooperation with CSOs and Secretariat for European Integration)</p> <p>3.1 Future IPA programming documents and activities</p> <p>3.2 Surveys/ CIVICUS reports or equivalents and other CSOs' reports</p> <p>3.2 Ministry of Labour, EU Progress report , State Statistical Office, State registers/research, CSO data</p> <p>3.3 Independent assessments e.g. Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks, CIVICUS reports</p> <p>4.1 and 4.2. Survey and independent assessments e.g. CIVICUS reports or equivalent, platforms and networks reports.</p>

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
	4.2 Increase in the number of joint public campaigns	that belong to one international network, 10% stated that they belong to 2 international networks, 15% belong to more than 3 international networks 4.2. data unavailable		4.2. data is available	4.2. increased number	
Action output indicator 1: Networks/platforms grant scheme	Greater links among CSOs whether thematically, regionally or locally Increased number of joint-actions	Data not yet available		Data not yet available	Data not yet available	tbd at the moment of contracts' signature
Action output indicator 2: TA contract	In-kind support provided to activists, CSOs and platforms/networks Consultation exercises smoothly run	Data not yet available		Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Indicators to be developed at the contracting phase.

Indicator	Description	Baseline (2015)	Last (year)	Milestone 2017	Target 2020	Source of information
	Visibility material produced allowing for better connection among activists, CSOs, platforms and networks					
Action output indicator 3: Direct Agreement	<p>help desk services, coaching, trainings, delivered</p> <p>thematic, inter sectorial and intra sectorial events smoothly organised</p> <p>information meetings targeting all levels of actors from civil society smoothly organised</p> <p>freedom of association promoted</p> <p>EU guidelines monitored</p>					
Process indicator 1: Number of contracts	1 service contract	N/A	N/A		N/A	EU Delegation monitoring reports
Process indicator 2: Number of contracts	6-10 large grant contracts	N/A	N/A		N/A	EU Delegation monitoring reports
Process indicator 3: Number of contracts	1 direct agreement	N/A	N/A		N/A	EU Delegation monitoring reports

(1) This is the related indicator as included in the Indicative Strategy Paper (for reference only)

(2) The agreed baseline year is 2010 (to be inserted in brackets in the top row). If for the chosen indicator, there are no available data for 2010, it is advisable to refer to the following years – 2011, 2012. The year of reference may not be the same either for all indicators selected due to a lack of data availability; in this case, the year should then be inserted in each cell in brackets. The baseline value may be "0" (i.e. no reference values are available as the Action represents a novelty for the beneficiary) but cannot be left empty or include references such as "N/A" or "will be determined later".

(3) The target year CANNOT be modified.

(4) This will be a useful reference to continue measuring the outcome of IPA II support beyond the 2014-2020 multi-annual financial period. If the Action is completed before 2020 (year for the performance reward), this value and that in the 2020 target column must be the same.

A5. SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

The present programme falls under the Sector Planning Documents (SPD) for civil society as drafted by the Ministry for EU Affairs. It is a seven year plan regularly up-dated.

The overall objective of financial assistance in the civil society sector is to contribute to further strengthen democratic structures and processes, fundamental rights and the rule of law, thereby also supporting the EU integration process.

The specific objectives stated in the SPD are to contribute to a more dynamic civil society with capacity to actively participate in policy and decision making processes in all relevant sectors, with a particular focus on fundamental rights and to foster dialogue and inter-cultural exchange between civil societies in Turkey and EU Member States.

Although there are a few examples of donor coordination between related institutions in the civil society sector, from a central government perspective, there is no systematic and holistic approach nor coordination, monitoring and reporting mechanism.

The EU is coordinating with other donors (e.g. Member States, UN agencies, etc.) while programming the instruments for Pre-Accession, including of course civil society related support. Civil Society donor coordination is also intensified at project level e.g. by TACSO, Sivil Düşün TAT, STGM, etc.

Finally, the comprehensive EU support to civil society in Turkey through various tools implemented under different modalities but also their complementarity can be explained as follows:

Based on past experience, the priority under IMBC-implemented projects focuses on the support to Turkish Institutions to mainstream civil society participation and institutional support for activities such as mapping of CSOs, strategies of participatory policy-making according to the ministry/public body, etc. The civil society participation mainstreaming approach should be an important criterion in designing projects under Decentralised Implementation System (DIS).

The EIDHR will continue to have a direct focus on promoting human rights where of course support to civil society also plays an instrumental role. In particular, a clear distinction should be made between the different and complementary approach of the CSF deconcentrated/national window and the EIDHR:

- The Civil Society Facility should focus on empowering CSOs (i.e. civil society development), thus be used as a mean.
- The EIDHR is the policy tool of the EC to promote democracy and human rights in all of its external policies. As such, EIDHR assistance is an instrument serving an objective where supporting CSOs/Human Rights Organisations is rather "democratic capacity-building focused". In addition, past experience shows that, in the Turkish context, the EIDHR is not easily reaching grass-root organisations. Its scope is defined within the limits of human rights and defending human rights defenders.

A6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The action is designed to promote among other cross-cutting issues gender equality and women, LGBTI, and other discriminated groups participation and to be a model action in that respect.

In the grant selection process, the project will as far as possible ensure gender equality, for example, through measures such as having both women and men as facilitators in workshops, having a gender equality

perspective in its actions and a gender mainstreaming approach while preparing posters, brochures and the web site.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Through its focus on fundamental rights and freedoms, the project will promote equal opportunities, gender equality and participation by more marginalised groups/organisations/individuals to the target groups in terms of services provided through the three activities of the present action document - see above "additional description" part.

The project will pay particular attention to the access of people with disabilities to activities and outputs. Under Activity 2, in particular, to ensure higher women participation to events, trainings, meetings, etc., baby-sitting services will be proposed.

Special attention will be paid to ensure that through platform and network grants as well in-kind support, an affirmative action budget will be allocated to the activities for the above mentioned purposes.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

Through its focus on fundamental rights and freedoms, the project will promote the inclusion and access of minorities and vulnerable groups to project activities. Throughout the project, the participation of minorities and vulnerable groups will be encouraged. Their representation will be sought along with other groups of civil society in project activities. Whenever required, measures will be taken to increase their participation in project activities.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER NON-STATE STAKEHOLDERS)

By definition, this action is aiming to improve the environment for active citizenship and to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens and has been designed based on inputs provided by activists and CSO representatives during consultation processes.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

During the identification phase environment emerged as one of the thematic areas to be covered. Special attention will be paid to ensure this through platform and network grants as well as in-kind support to environmentally sensitive activities. Reducing waste and recycling will be promoted under the three activities.

A7. SUSTAINABILITY

The specific objective of this action is two-folded: (1) to improve the environment for active citizenship and (2) to strengthen the capacity of organised active citizens.

Contributing to an improved environment (1) for active citizenship infers more possibilities for activists, CSOs and platforms and networks to raise funds and find diversified support to conduct their activities. This includes public funding (from local to national levels) as well as private funding (donations, CSR-like programmes, etc.) and income-generating activities.

A strengthened capacity (2) is also a promise of sustainability in that the work of civil society will be and will be perceived by the public authorities, the media and the general public as more trustworthy. Their performance in raising funds and finding appropriate ways to continue to conduct their activities will be increased. Besides, new initiatives, organisations, platforms and networks are a means to ensure some institutional sustainability.

A8. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

From past experience, the CSF in Turkey (Sivil Düşün in particular) and the EU visibility in the context of this facility are highly recognised. In order to improve even further this positive trend, communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation of the Action. The implementation of the communication activities shall be funded from the amounts allocated to the Action.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the Action has received funding from the EU in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions. Additional Visibility Guidelines developed by the European Commission (DG NEAR) will have to be followed.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives and the accession process. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions and will promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Activity 2 precisely focuses on communication and visibility. The TAT in particular - as well as STGM - will ensure both EU visibility and promotion of the whole action. The TAT will have to develop and implement a sound communication plan. It will have to include - at least - the ways the action will be explained to the target group of "Sivil Düşün" i.e. activists, CSOs, Networks/platforms of all over Turkey; as well as the ways the project will be promoted in the media and towards the general public.

All key messages will be developed on the basic principles that Turkish and other languages than Turkish spoken in Turkey should be favoured in all communication and visibility plans; jargon-free material should be developed; "Sivil Düşün" should be a model in terms of inclusiveness, environmentally-friendliness, gender mainstreaming and answer to special needs requests.

The TAT will monitor and report on EU visibility for the activity that will be conducted under activity 2, as well as under activities 1 and 3.

B – ALLOCATION 2017

B1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Civil society organisations (CSOs) encompass all non-State, not-for-profit, non-partisan and non-violent structures, through which people organise to pursue shared objectives and ideals and promote and protect their rights, whether political, civic, cultural, social or economic. An independent, pluralistic and competent civil society is a crucial component of any democratic system. By articulating citizens' concerns, it represents and fosters pluralism and can contribute to more effective and inclusive policies. Civil society organisations can also play an active role in fostering dialogue, peace and conflict resolution.

The ability of CSOs to participate in different domains of public life depends on a set of preconditions commonly referred to as the 'CSO enabling environment', for which different actors carry responsibility. To operate, CSOs need a functioning democratic legal and judicial system – giving them the de jure and de facto right to associate and secure funding, coupled with freedom of expression, access to information and participation in public life. The primary responsibility to ensure these basic conditions lies with the state.

Despite several positive changes initiated over the last decade in Turkey regarding the Civil Code, Law on Associations and Law on Foundations, further reform in these primary legislations and specifically in relevant secondary legislation is necessary to expand the freedom of association by bringing them in line with EU standards. Measures taken in the specific context of the post-coup attempt and subsequent State of Emergency as of July 2016 have considerably reduced the space in which CSO and independent media can operate.

The ability of CSOs to perform is also hampered by their own limitations as they usually face limited financing capacity as well as internal governance challenges such as lack of representativeness, transparency and conflict of leadership. The lack of adequate expertise (particularly in the legal and policy fields) is one of the major issues for CSOs in Turkey whereas their social basis, members and volunteers, is particularly low. Civil society in Turkey is also characterised by geographic discrepancies as the majority of organisations are registered in urban areas. It is also worth noting that only around 1.5% of all associations consider that they are engaged on human rights issues.

Considering CSO/public sector relationships, even though there are formal arrangements for CSO's participation in some policies areas, civil society organisations are not comprehensively involved in law and policy-making processes. There is no overall civil society strategy at the country level and the need for such a strategy has not been identified as a priority. Key administrations in charge of the relations with civil society organisations include, among others, (i) Ministry of Interior (Department of Associations) responsible for the monitoring, recording and archiving establishment procedures, works and operations of associations; the monitoring of in-kind and cash aid that associations receive from abroad, and audit of associations accounts and operations when necessary, (ii) Prime Ministry (Directorate General of Foundations) which is carrying out the management of about 52.000 Mazbut Foundations reached at our time from the Seljuk and Ottoman periods. The DGF has taken over auditing of 262 - Mülhak Foundations belonging to Pre-republic period whose management are currently executed by their trustees and auditing of 5004 New Foundations established in accordance with Turkish Civil Act with the beginning of Republic period and 167 Community Foundations, (iii) Ministry of Family and Social Policy responsible amongst others for gender equality, social inclusion of disadvantaged persons, combating discrimination and poverty, (iv) Ministry of Development and (v) Ministry of Youth and Sports

Beginning with the new term of IPA, civil society is determined as a sub-sector under Democracy and Governance sector for which four sub-actions are determined as shown below:

- Improving legislative environment for active citizenship
- Strengthening cooperation between public sector and CSOs
- Strengthening the capacities of and networking between organised active citizens / CSOs

- Connecting people for mutual understanding between citizens in Turkey and the EU

In February 2017, a consultation process with civil society was started by the Ministry for EU Affairs. Two national workshops were held with the participation of more than 300 CSO representatives in İstanbul and Ankara. Also a meeting with CSO and private sector representatives which are active in philanthropy and corporate social responsibility was held in 2016. A similar meeting was held with the actors which are active in social entrepreneurship. Finally another meeting was organised with the participation of municipalities active in civil society area. Several meetings were organised with the universities' incubation to get their comments and suggestions regarding the needs of the civil society in Turkey.

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

This action under 2017 allocation will focus on the promotion of active citizenship, volunteerism, capacity-building of and support to civil society organisations with a specific focus on the promotion and protection of human rights in Turkey. It will be composed of four intertwined activities targeting various categories of civil society organisations at the local, regional and national level. Public authorities at various levels will also be targeted when relevant.

A specific component will be designed so as to ensure core funding for human rights CSOs. This will be complemented by a facility that will provide ad hoc expertise to organisations and individuals to strengthen capacity of both CSO representatives and public officials in relation to the monitoring of human rights on the field, the international human rights framework and related commitments of the country in this field. Thirdly, a specific mechanism will be set up so as to support Human Rights Defenders. Media pluralism and freedom of expression will also be supported through a specific action targeting non-mainstream media. Finally, CSO's initiatives promoting tolerance, peace-building and intercultural, interregional and inter-religious dialogues in Turkey will be supported.

In the previous Action on Civil Society (2016), the main focus area was determined as supporting the development of the capacities of CSOs with a bottom-up approach, including by fostering cooperation between Turkish and EU CSOs.

This Action will be complementary to activities to be carried out through IPA 2014, 2015 and 2016 in the sense that activities funded under the three first years of IPA II have a strong focus on CSO/public sector relationships and target directly some crucial public administrations in charge of the management and follow-up of civil society organisations.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The Action is in line with the **European Commission's Enlargement Strategy** and addresses the objectives of the **IPA II Indicative Strategy Paper for Turkey** (IPA II Strategy Paper) under the Civil Society sub-sector which are *to support the development of civil society through more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes; promote a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue; enhance civil society dialogue and inter-cultural exchanges between civil societies in Turkey and Europe.*

The Action also covers several of the actions pre-defined for financing under the IPA II Strategy Paper:

- *Protecting and promoting fundamental rights and fighting against all forms of discrimination in society (e.g. protecting the rights of women, children, LGBTI, people with disabilities and vulnerable groups in the country), as well as key areas of EU integration and other areas of particular relevance for the inclusive development of Turkish democracy.*
- *Strengthening the capacity of and networking between organised active citizens / CSOs, to improve outreach, governance, and institutional capacities, such as advocacy, administrative skills, and fundraising skills.*

This action will contribute to the achievement of results mentioned in the **DG Enlargement Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020**, notably results related to "Capable, transparent and accountable CSOs" and "Effective CSOs"¹. It will also respond to the 2016 Country Report that stressed the difficult circumstances under which civil society organisations and human rights defenders operate. The intervention logic and most of the indicators defined in this Action have been inspired by these Guidelines that will be an important tool during the implementation and monitoring process of the Action.

Even if there is no comprehensive civil society national strategy, this action is in line with the **10th National Development Plan of Turkey** (2014-2018) that points out the increased role of civil society in solving social problems and supporting development efforts and answers to the challenges faced by CSOs as identified in the 2016 Report on Turkey. It also refers to the substantial disparities among regions with respect to the number of CSOs, their members and their effectiveness.

Finally, the Action is a direct contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal 16.10 "*Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements*". It will also support Turkey in fulfilling some of the accepted recommendations of the Universal Periodic review in 2015 and notably (i) to investigate all complaints of harassment and persecution against human rights defenders and non-governmental organisations, and sanction those responsible and (ii) to guarantee the right to freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, association and peaceful assembly and align its legislation with its obligations and commitments based on relevant international law.

This action is in line with the Presidency conclusions and recommendations of December 2016: "*The Council notes the Commission's intention to intensify its efforts to redirect IPA funds to support activities in the sector of the rule of law, human rights and freedom of expression, with a particular focus on civil society.*".

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Activities supporting civil society in the framework of the National Programme for Turkey date back to 2001 and include nearly 30 programmes. Significant investment and efforts were made by the EU and Turkey for supporting the development of capacities of civil society organisations, civil society-public dialogue as well as an EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue.

Under the IPA 2013, 2014 & 2015, 10 MEUR have been set aside to foster a conducive environment for active citizenship and strengthening cooperation between CSOs and public sector by providing technical assistance to key national counterparts, namely to the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Department of Associations (Ministry of Interior) and the DG Foundations (Prime Ministry Office). In order to strengthen the capacities of and networking between organised active citizens and CSOs, the various component of the Civil Society Support Programmes under IPA 2014, 2015 and 2016 have been designed and amounted to a total of 13 MEUR. The sub-action "connecting people for mutual understanding between citizens in Turkey and the EU" will be financed under the Civil Society Dialogue programmes under IPA 2015 & 2016 for a total amount of 13.5 MEUR.

All the above actions are managed by the Ministry of EU Affairs, their implementation have not yet started due to administrative delays. After intensive efforts by the relevant institutions, the tendering process has started for most of them and the implementations process will begin in 2018.

Among the lessons learned, it is worth mentioning specific findings of the "*Thematic Evaluation of EU's Support to civil society in the Western Balkans and Turkey (WBT)*" (2012):

¹ "Traffic Lights Report 2016 Turkey: Monitoring report against the EU Guidelines for the EU 2016 Progress Report" http://www.tacso.org/doc/Traffic%20Lights%20Report_2016_TRupdated.pdf

- Efficiency and effectiveness of EU assistance would be significantly improved by additional efforts to balance the assistance in order to better reach out to smaller and grass-roots organisations. This can be done by simplification of procedures for smaller grants, through enabling use of local languages, decreasing the share of co-funding and allowing for simplified reporting procedures, whilst respecting the general rules and regulations of EU assistance.
- EU support should further build the capacity of CSOs so that they can fully and effectively fulfil their role as “watchdogs” when it comes to policy issues and advocacy in matters such as human rights and the fight against corruption.

The various components of the current action will be designed so as to ensure synergies with actions funded under both the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and components of the IPA 2017 Fundamental Rights Action Document (i.e. the promotion of freedom of expression and media). More precisely, the European Commission will ensure that upcoming EIDHR calls for proposals (budget years 2017 to 2020) focus on specific topics not prioritised in this action document, with strong emphasis on the promotion and protection of human rights. After a careful CSO consultation, EIDHR guidelines will be drafted in order to take into account emerging CSOs needs and the evolving context.

Complementarity with the other components of the Turkey window of the Civil Society Facility, notably Sivil Dusun, will be also ensured as CSF-Turkey in previous years particularly focuses on CSOs networks and platforms and activists whereas actions planned under this CSF Action Document 2017 will target especially individual organisations, volunteers and public institutions. Besides, topics such as CSO enabling environment and CSO/public sector dialogue will be mainstreamed in upcoming TACSO's activities (TACSO 3 – Regional and Turkey levels) that will be run in parallel to activities planned under this Action Document.

Finally, coordination with others donors, including with EU Member-States, is ensured via the organisation of regular meetings at the level of Development Counsellors where EU support to civil society and fundamental rights is discussed. Activities planned under this Action Document have already been presented to EU missions in Ankara. It has been agreed that details on the implementation modalities will be shared with EU Member-States in order to ensure a consistent EU support to civil society.

B2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
<p>To support the development of a vibrant civil society through more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes and by promoting a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue</p>	<p>1. Progress in enabling environment for freedoms, operation of CSOs and participation in policy-making</p> <p>2. Number of associations and membership, including networks, platforms and civic initiatives.</p>	<p>-TACSO/STGM Monitoring Report of Guidelines for EU Support to civil society in enlargement countries, - Worldwide Governance Indicator on "Voice and Accountability" – World Bank - Civicus Monitoring – Tracking Civic Space - Turkish Ministry of Interior – Department of Associations</p>	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>To empower active citizenship and strengthen civil society for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms</p>	<p>1. External perception of importance and impact of CSOs activities</p> <p>2. Share of CSOs which use adequate argumentation and analysis for achieving advocacy goals</p>	<p>-TACSO/STGM Monitoring Report of Guidelines for EU Support to civil society in enlargement countries, -Citizens' survey – TACSO 3 -CSO Survey - TACSO 3</p>	<p>Turkey committed to democratic principles as per Copenhagen political criteria</p>
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>1. Improved capacities of human rights CSOs to implement their strategic plan and to sustainably carry out their missions, including improving awareness of citizens on issues related to freedom of expression, dialogue and tolerance</p> <p>2. Improved civil society monitoring on fundamental rights and strengthened cooperation for the promotion of human rights</p> <p>3. Improved support of Human Rights Defenders</p> <p>4. Improved independent media watchdog capacities</p>	<p>1. Number of human rights CSOs benefiting from core funding that are able to implement their own strategic plan and number of citizens benefiting from activities organised in the framework of supported projects</p> <p>2. Number of civil monitoring actions / number of advocacy actions using civil monitoring</p> <p>3. Number of Human Rights Defenders supported by the EU, sex disaggregated data, who improved their capacity to carry out their work</p> <p>4. Number of capacity-building supports provided of improve media pluralism</p>	<p>Reports from contracted service providers and grant beneficiaries</p> <p>ROM reports / On the spot Monitoring checklists of EUD Staff – monitoring missions</p>	<p>- Level of freedom of expression and association does not deteriorate further (baseline mid 2017) - Both relevant public authorities and CSOs are willing to engage in dialogue and cooperation. - CSOs are willing to collaborate among themselves. - Grant beneficiaries show willingness to develop effective and sustainable cooperation.</p>

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activity 1 – *Supporting core functions of civil society organisations*

One of the emerging trends arising from recent political developments in Turkey is that civil society organisations, especially those engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights, struggle to maintain their existence and operational capabilities.

The main objective of this activity is to support the core functions of human rights CSOs through financial support to third parties. This support, that can also cover the operating costs, will allow organisations to operate independently and to sustain their operations while being organisationally and institutionally strengthened. This will allow beneficiary organisations to implement their own strategic plans and to carry out a wide range of activities such as service provision for citizens whose rights have been violated, awareness-raising campaigns, advocacy activities, networking and field monitoring, etc. This support will also strengthen CSO's internal governance and accountability towards citizens.

The target group of this activity are non-partisan civil society organisations based in Turkey that directly support citizens through a rights-based approach.

A specific component of this activity will also promote freedom of expression, tolerance and confidence-building in Turkey through support to civil society organisations' initiatives for dialogue, promotion of sustainable peace as well as fight against all forms of violence. Through action grants, this activity will allow target groups to better understand the roots-cause of ethnic, social and political divisions while initiating actions at local and country level to overcome them such as civic education, intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, dialogue for peace, awareness raising campaigns, etc.

As widely demonstrated by recent studies and opinion pools, society in Turkey is facing political, ethnic and social polarisation. Such divisions among citizens are widening in the aftermath of the coup attempt of July 2016 and referendum campaign on constitutional changes of April 2017. As stated in the Turkey 2016 Country Report: "Gender-based violence, discrimination, hate speech against minorities, hate crime and violations of human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons continue to be a source of a serious concern."

Around 50 organisations will benefit from this activity, including through financial support to third parties. Adequate geographical distribution of support will be ensured and the mechanism will be developed taking into consideration gender and minority issues (e.g. provision of disaggregated data).

Activity 2 – *Monitoring human rights situation and advocating for compliance with international human rights framework*

Turkey is a party to regional and international conventions and mechanisms in the area of fundamental rights and freedoms. Article 90 of the Constitution stipulates that in the case of a conflict between international agreements in the area of fundamental rights and freedoms and the domestic laws due to differences in provisions on the same matter, the provisions of international agreements prevail. As such, the provisions of international human rights treaties ratified by Turkey may be directly invoked before Turkish courts, which call for the provision of effective mechanisms for implementation of the human rights obligations deriving from international instruments as one of the priorities for the country.

The main objective of this Activity is to strengthen Turkish civil society organisations and citizens' role in the promotion and protection of human rights through expanded civil society and citizens' monitoring and advocacy at various levels. The action will provide support, in the form of ad-hoc expertise, to civil society organisations and individuals in order to document human rights situation, to facilitate consolidation of multi-stakeholders analysis and reporting and, ultimately, to initiate advocacy campaigns calling for an enhanced legal compliance with the international human rights framework. Relevant public authorities at

local and central levels will be involved in the action as potential beneficiaries of capacity-building activities related to the international human rights framework.

This activity will directly target civil society organisations and individuals engaged in human rights work but also, when relevant, public authorities' representatives. Through technical expertise (expert fees) and ad hoc support (incidental expenditure covering meetings or communication costs, etc.), the activity will support monitoring, reporting, awareness-raising and advocacy in the human rights field. Activities organised at the local/regional levels will be encouraged by supporting actions proposed by multi-stakeholders' initiatives, coalitions or networks. Specific principles related to the rights-based approach will be used to ensure adequate involvement of target groups. At the design and implementation stage, specific criteria will be elaborated so as to ensure that the activity duly covers all regions of the country, including facilitating comparative analyses.

Activity 3 – Supporting Human Rights Defenders

The European Union Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders indicate that support for human rights defenders is already a long established element of the European Union's human rights external relations policy. The European Union Local Strategy to Support and Defend Human Rights Defenders in Turkey provides operational guidelines for EU missions to implement the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders, notably with regard to the provision of effective support to human rights defenders as well as the monitoring of the situation of human rights defenders in Turkey.

The main objective of this activity is to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms by supporting human rights defenders in their efforts to protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. The supported activities can include but will not be limited to: actions for enhancing technical knowledge, skills and capacities of human rights defenders for carrying out their activities, including expertise building for legal professionals and improving access to justice. This activity will complement and strengthen actions funded under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.

Activity 4 – Enabling media pluralism and support to freedom of expression

Media freedoms and freedom of expression reflect a country's commitment to democracy, good governance, political accountability and rule of law. Media freedom, media pluralism and media integrity are important for a country's EU accession path. For this reason, the EU supports worldwide journalistic organisations and unions, NGOs as well as research organisations to enhance the watchdog and monitoring role of the media.

The objective of the action is to strengthen freedom of expression and media pluralism by way of supporting media professionals, investigative journalists, bloggers and social media outlets outside mainstream media, mainly TVs and radios, while carrying out their watchdog functions.

The supported activities can include but will not be limited to: awareness raising campaigns geared towards the general public, including youth, to explain and underline the importance of freedom of expression; support to specific activities of media professionals for objective reporting; investigative journalism; mentoring/coaching organised by well experienced and recognised media professionals for the benefit of young professionals; reporting of press freedom status via publication of news items, including on social media; reporting for transparency and accountability of public money; lobbying for transparency of media ownership, support to the purchase of equipment for an increased quality of fair and objective reporting for non-mainstream media, etc.

RISKS

- Implementation arrangements (specifically for activities 1, 3 and 4) require strong and reliable implementing partners willing to accept substantial risks. Calls for proposals may be unsuccessful. Mitigation measure: EUD will promote extensively call for proposals, including targeting EU-based organisations and networks.
- EU procedures for the award of grants, including complex application documents and financial rules as well as co-financing requirement may affect the motivation of the CSOs, especially those with limited capacities, to participate in the Action. Mitigation measure: EUD will make sure that capacity building opportunities are available in a timely manner all the potential beneficiaries. In addition, specific derogations to financial rules to allow for a wider participation will be considered (as for instance the use of Turkish language in sub granting schemes or the possibility to allowing full financing, etc.).
- Political developments in Turkey may affect ability of civil society organisations, media representatives and other stakeholders to participate in, and benefit from the Action. Mitigation measure: EUD will support a wide and diversified range of organisations, including European CSOs, to channel support, not only financial, to target groups.
- Lack of political support for the Action that may lead to low or limited interest of public institutions at all levels to co-operate with CSOs. Mitigation measure: During implementation, activities planned under IPA 2014 and 2015 to strengthen cooperation between CSOs and public sector by providing technical assistance to key national counterparts (especially Directorate of Associations and DG Foundation) will be ongoing. These activities will be useful to ensure adequate interest of public institutions.

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Support of the objectives of the action from Turkish authorities is essential. This should be reflected by the fact that (i) the bulk of the target groups of the Action should be able to operate independently and (ii) the overall social and political context at the time of implementation of activities should not further deteriorate.

B3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

For components 1 to 4 of the Action, 4 distinct Steering Committees (SC) will be established to provide guidance and strategic orientation during implementation. Each SC will be composed of the EU Delegation, contractors (service providers or/and grant beneficiaries) and representatives of relevant civil society organisations (approx. 5 to be selected through an open call for interest with the aim to have gender balanced representation). Steering committee will meet every six months to discuss and evaluate the progress. The EU will chair meetings while the organisation and logistics will be covered by the contractors. The agenda and the minutes of the meetings will be drafted by a secretariat (contractors) based on indications from the EU Delegation and the other SC members. In addition, during the implementation of the programme, the Turkish counterparts will be regularly updated about progress in the implementation of the different activities, in particular in the framework of the Implementation Review Meetings.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

Activity 1 – Supporting core functions of civil society organisations

A two lots call for proposals will be launched to award two distinct grant contracts. The first lot's main objective will be to provide financial support to third parties, including supporting the operating costs of the organisations (around 50 CSO will be supported). The second lot will focus on dialogue and tolerance as well as media freedom and freedom of expression also through financial support to third party (around 10 CSO will be supported). Due to the objective of the foreseen activity which is to support the core functions of right-based organisations in a particularly challenging environment, financing in full is essential to carry out the action. Besides, it will be a crucial incentive to ensure a successful call for proposal as managing such a financial support to third parties involves taking-up financial risk.

Activity 2 – Monitoring human rights situation and advocating for compliance with international human rights framework

A service contract will be signed with a Contractor that is capable to provide the required expertise and know-how that is necessary to address the needs of various stakeholders including Human Rights NGO, Human Rights Defenders, Foundations and/or research centres specialised on human rights.

Activity 3 – Supporting Human Rights Defenders

A grant contract will be awarded through a call for proposals to human rights organisations. Due to the objective of the foreseen activity which is to protect the fundamental rights of people in a particularly challenging environment, financing in full is essential to carry out the action. Besides, it will be a crucial incentive to ensure a successful call for proposal as managing such a support mechanism involves taking-up high financial and political risks. Financial support to third parties might be considered.

Activity 4 – Enabling media pluralism and freedom of expression

This activity will be implemented through the award of two separate direct grants to Gazeteciler Cemiyeti (GC) and Türkiye Gazeteciler Sendikası (TGS) of EUR 1 750 000 million each. These organisations are in a situation of de facto monopoly as their memberships gather the largest population of journalists across Turkey. Due to the objective of the foreseen activity which is to promote media pluralism in a particularly challenging environment, financing in full is essential to carry out the action. Besides, the current context, as described in the EU's Country Report for Turkey in 2016, prevents journalist organisations' ability to co-finance the action..

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In addition to Steering Committees for each activity mentioned above, result-oriented monitoring (ROM) missions will be organised on a regular basis in order to assess the state of play of the various components and to suggest, if relevant, adjustments to the implementation to take into account the evolving context.

One of the main challenges related to activities to be supported under the 2017 allocation is the absence of a reliable baseline analysis that could be used in order to properly assess the performance of the action. Indicators coming from the EU guidelines for EU Support to civil society in enlargement countries are only partially useful to genuinely measure the performance of activities focussing on Human Rights and fundamental freedoms. For that reason, while drafting the various call for proposals' guidelines and tender dossiers, the EU Delegation will ensure that relevant provisions are included so that to allow for the development of a monitoring framework including, when feasible, the production of a baseline, at the level of each activity. The Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organisations project (TACSO 3 foreseen under

2016 allocation package of this CSF programme) will also be mobilised to support both the EU Delegation and target groups in the monitoring of activities funded under this second package of 2017 allocation.

In addition, a specific budget of 300.000 EUR is earmarked so that the EU Delegation can carry-out, via independent consultants, final and/or ex-post evaluations of each of the four components of this Action. Evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines for evaluations.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator ⁵	Baseline ⁶ (value + year)	Target 2020	Final Target (2024)	Source of information
<p>Impact: Progress in enabling environment for freedoms, operation of CSOs and participation in policy-making</p> <p>Number of associations and membership, including networks, platforms and civic initiatives</p>	<p>35 (2015)⁷</p> <p><i>Repressed</i>⁸</p> <p>110.446 associations (2017)</p> <p>1786 platforms (2015)</p>	<p>35</p> <p><i>Repressed</i></p> <p>115.000 associations</p> <p>1850 platforms</p>	<p>37</p> <p><i>Obstructed</i></p> <p>120.000 associations</p> <p>1900 platforms</p>	<p>- Worldwide Governance Indicator on "Voice and Accountability" – World Bank</p> <p>- Civicus Monitoring – Tracking Civic Space</p> <p>- Turkish Ministry of Interior – Department of Associations</p> <p>- TACSO/STGM Monitoring Report of Guidelines for EU Support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020</p>
<p>Outcome: 1. External perception of importance and impact of CSOs activities (%) 2. Share of CSOs which use adequate argumentation and analysis for achieving advocacy goals.</p>	<p>53 (2015)</p> <p>33 (2015)</p>	<p>58</p> <p>40</p>	<p>60</p> <p>45</p>	<p>TACSO/STGM Monitoring Report of Guidelines for EU Support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020</p> <p>Citizens' survey + CSO Survey – TACSO 3</p>
<p>Output 1. Number of human rights CSOs benefiting from core funding that are able to implement their own strategic plan, including those focused on dialogue and tolerance and media freedom and freedom of expression</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>50</p>	<p>Report from grant contractor (Activity 1) - ROM reports / On the spot Monitoring checklists of EUD Staff</p>
<p>2. Number of civil monitoring actions / number of advocacy actions using civil monitoring</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>20/5</p>	<p>50/20</p>	<p>Report from grant contractor (Activity 2) - ROM reports / On the spot Monitoring checklists of EUD Staff</p>
<p>3. Number of Human Rights Defenders supported by the EU, sex disaggregated data, who improved their capacity to carry out their work</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>50</p>	<p>Report from grant contractor (Activity 3) - ROM reports / On the spot Monitoring checklists of EUD Staff</p>

⁵ Impact and outcome indicators come from the *Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries*. STGM (Civil Society Development Center) based in Ankara will manage the third phase of TACSO - upcoming grant contract funded under this Civil Society Facility – Turkey Window. This project will, among others, assist the EU Delegation in conducting annual monitoring of indicators of the above mentioned EU Guidelines through the organisation of CSOs and citizens' surveys. Baseline data of impact and outcome indicators come from previous surveys organized by TACSO. Output indicators 1 to 4 will assess progress of the various components of the Action.

⁶ Please see above page 13 "Methodology for monitoring and evaluation" for challenge related to baseline. At output level, baselines are equal to 0 as activities have not started yet except for Activity 3 where the baseline comes from EIDHR funded projects. For activities 2 and 4 despite the fact that it has not been possible to gather meaningful data, it should be noted that some actions currently funded under IPA, including previous CSF, and EIDHR, do address issues that will be tackled in this Action Document. Baselines, targets and final targets – output level - will be refined during the inception phase of the various activities.

⁷ Percentile rank of Turkey in 2015 – Voice and accountability Indicator <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/#home>

⁸ As per CIVICUS classification to assess civic space in a given country: <https://monitor.civicus.org/>

4. Number of capacity-building supports provided of improve media pluralism	0	20	40	Report from grant contractor (Activity 4) - ROM reports / On the spot Monitoring checklists of EUD Staff
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B5. SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

EU accession process has been the catalyser for the development of civil society in Turkey. Civil society organisations encompass various legal forms in Turkey: associations (the majority of CSOs), foundations, trade unions, professional/vocational organisations and cooperatives. They are active in various sectors but the majority focuses on social solidarity and services (charity) while a minority of CSOs are right-based and/or focus on human rights issues through awareness-raising, monitoring, or advocacy actions.

The fact that civil society became a sub-sector coordinated by Ministry for EU Affairs in IPA II period demonstrates the importance given to the role and contribution that CSOs have for the promotion of democracy and human rights, the rule of law, and the respect for, and protection of minorities. The Ministry of EU Affairs is also in charge of the sub-sector planning. Therefore, the needs and priorities of the sector have been indicated mainly in official and working documents related to the accession process. In addition, several public institutions have a role to play in the development of the civil society. Yet, a coherent and widely-accepted civil society sector policy or strategy or a single institution responsible for facilitation of such a strategy does not exist in Turkey.

Significant reforms in legislation directly concerning civil society implemented between 2003 and 2008 can be considered as a milestone for strengthening the legal framework. However, further reforms in both primary legislation and specifically in the relevant secondary legislation are necessary to expand the freedom of associations by bringing them in line with the EU standards. The current context does not seem to be conducive to further reforms in line with EU accession requirements. The Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries are monitored yearly; trends show a worsening of the situation as far as the enabling environment for CSO is concerned, in particular in a recent context of State of emergency.

B6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Gender balance will be sought on all the managing bodies and activities of the Action and importance will be given during all stages of contracting and implementation. Equal participation of women and men will be secured in the design of activities and access to the opportunities they offer. Promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities will be considered when preparing guidelines for applicants for the calls for proposals and tender dossier for service contracts. All activities will be designed and implemented so as to provide disaggregated data by gender.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The right based approach principles of transparency, inclusiveness and non-discrimination will be applied in each activity and taken into consideration at each steps of the implementation. For instance, guidelines of the various calls for proposals to be launched will be drafted in order to favour proposals that ensure equal opportunities for various categories of target groups. All contractors will be requested to provide monitoring data, recording the participation of men and women in terms of expert inputs and of trainees/beneficiaries benefiting under the project as an integral component of all narrative progress reports. Geographical coverage will be respected all over Turkey, with a special focus on remoted regions.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

Activities supported under this Action will contribute to the enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms without any discrimination. Throughout the Action, special focus will be made on minorities and vulnerable groups so that to ensure active and equal participation of various categories of civil society organisations. For instance, through financial support to third party, some activities will support grass-roots organisations often out of reach of classical funding schemes. In addition, a specific sub-component (activity 1) aims at strengthening CSO actions to promote dialogue and tolerance. In this framework, special attention will be given to organisations representing or composed of vulnerable and/or discriminated groups. Overall, the whole action has been designed so that to strengthen, among others, the protection of minorities and vulnerable groups.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The Action has been designed taking into account the feedback received in the context of workshops organised for the mid-term review of the Turkey Country Strategy Paper in November 2016. On that occasion, the EU Delegation was requested to focus future interventions on CSOs' capacity-building and operating space. Before drafting implementing documents, additional workshops gathering various categories of CSOs will be organised so as to ensure that emerging and evolving needs are duly taken on board. Finally, CSOs will have a key role to play in the monitoring structures of the various components.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

According to the OECD-DAC's methodology, in the activities foreseen, environment and climate change (mitigation and/or adaptation) should be classified as "not targeted" (Rio markers), as these issues are not relevant in the context of this action. The activities on this Action Programme are envisaged not to have any negative effect to climate change.

B7. SUSTAINABILITY

The four components of the Action aim at strengthening the capacities of civil society organisations and at improving the skills of citizens for the promotion and protection of Human Rights and fundamental freedoms in Turkey. As such, the main assumption of the Action is that targets groups and beneficiaries of the various activities will benefit from the Action even after its completion.

Under Activity 1- This activity will provide core funding (operating grants) to CSOs that will allow them to increase their organisational and institutional capacities through, for instance, the implementation of their own strategic plans. This support will, among others, enable organisations to better advocate and raise funds for their sustainability.

Under Activity 2 – The empowerment of citizens to monitor the progress of Turkey in the protection and respect of human rights will result, among others, into advocacy activities at various levels, including at the international one. This activity will help building sustainable bridges between local organisations and international CSOs'/networks that are likely to be maintained beyond project completion.

Under Activity 3 – Support to Human Rights Defenders is key for them to fulfil their missions. Support provided in this framework will be very limited in time so that to avoid creating dependency to the activity. However, Human Rights Defenders' monitoring outputs will provide elements for follow-up actions in support of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Turkey.

Activity 4 - The implementing modality of this activity will require the constitution of a consortium of relevant specialised media organisations (co-beneficiaries of a grant contract). As such, this modality

will strengthen cohesion among stakeholders. The creation of such networks ensure that the activity's benefits flow beyond, and that stakeholders cooperate after, completion of the action.

B8. Communication and visibility

Whereas all necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the various components of the Action have received funding from the EU in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions, some derogations to the visibility guidelines may be granted during implementation on an ad hoc basis due to the nature of issues tackled in this Action Document. More particularly, support provided under Activities 2 and 3 and to a lesser extent under Activity 4 will be carefully assessed at the time of implementation to consider potential visibility derogations

More generally, visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention under the 2017 allocation contributes to the promotion and protection of Human Rights in Turkey. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions and will promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

The communication and visibility of the Action will be carried out in three different forms:

- Via direct communications (Workshops, trainings, seminars etc.) with key stakeholders including local and national authorities;
- Publicity/public information outreach including press media conference, media interviews, press releases, newspaper, photo opportunities, newsletters, research papers, reports etc.;
- Web based communications including a strong focus on the use of online social media.

Annex A – Turkey CSF and Media 2016-2017

Indicative Action budget breakdown and planning for contracting procedures

IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES	BUDGET 2016 (€)		BUDGET 2017 (€)		TIMELINE	
	Total	EU contribution	Total	EU contribution	Launch of procedure	Contract signature ⁹
PROCUREMENT (NO DETAILS PER TYPE OF CONTRACT SHOULD BE PROVIDED)						
Act 1/2016 - Sivil Düşün tailored networking support and visibility – service contract	5,000,000	5,000,000			Q2 2017	Q4 2017
Act 2/ 2017 - Monitoring human rights situation and advocating for compliance with international human rights framework			3,700,000	3,700,000	Q1 2018	Q4 2018
FWC / 2017 – Final ex-post evaluation of the various components of the Action			300,000	300,000	Q2 2020	Q4 2020
GRANTS						
Act 2/ 2016 - Grant scheme to support networking and sustainable platforms	2,000,000	2,000,000			Q4 2016	Q4 2017
Act 3 / 2016 - Support to the Resource Centre – Direct grant award	3,000,000	3,000,000			Q3 2017	Q4 2017

Timeline: QUARTER (Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4) YEAR

ACT.1 / 2017 - Supporting core functions of civil society organisations			5,000,000	5,000,000	Q1 2018	Q4 2018
Act.3 / 2017 - Supporting Human Rights Defenders			3,500,000	3,500,000	Q1 2018	Q4 2018
Act.4 / 2017 - Enabling media pluralism and freedom of expression			3,500,000	3,500,000	Q4 2017	Q4 2018
TOTAL	10,000,000	10,000,000	16,000,000	16,000,000		