



Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures
Fondation Euro-Méditerranéenne Anna Lindh pour le Dialogue entre les Cultures

مؤسسة أناليند الأورو-متوسطية للحوار بين الثقافات

Funding Opportunities in the Euro-Mediterranean Region

Part 3

European Union Institutions

5 August 2006

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- Funding opportunities in the Euro-Mediterranean Region -

Part 3 – European Union Institutions

(updated: 5 August 2006)

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Part 3 - European Union Institutions

Introduction

The aim of this database is to provide members of Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) National Networks with relevant information about funding opportunities for the implementation of projects and programmes in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, in line with the mission and activities of the Anna Lindh Foundation. This database has been developed through contacts available at the Foundation and internet sources, whereby information about different funding opportunities has been collected. The database will be regularly updated.

This third part contains information about funding opportunities of European Union Institutions in favour of projects and programmes that might be developed in the Euro-Mediterranean Region. The main part of this document consists of opportunities of financial support by the European Commission (EC), including Regional European and Euro-Mediterranean Programmes, as well as worldwide EU Programmes which are also addressed to Euro-Mediterranean countries. Furthermore, information about credit facilities of the European Investment Bank is being provided.

Entries marked with an asterisk represent organizations members of one ALF National Network.

Institutions and organisations whose online information is only provided in languages other than English, French or Arabic have not been included in this document.

Deadlines for applications are provided only if they were available on the website of the concerned organization. Please note that, in 2006, the budget balance of ALF-granted projects must be financed from the applicant's or his partners' own resources, or from sources other than the ALF or the European Community budget (see chapter 1.4 of the Guidelines for Applicants for the ALF Call for Proposals).

The Anna Lindh Foundation welcomes any suggestions on other funding opportunities to be mentioned in this document. Please send your suggestions to the ALF Network Coordinator, Mr Gianluca Solera (solera@euromedalex.org).

A. Regional European and Euro-Mediterranean Programmes

1. Culture2000 Programme

Culture2000 is a European Community Programme established for seven years (2000-2006) with a total budget of € 236,5 million. Culture2000 provides grants to cultural cooperation projects in all artistic and cultural fields (performing arts, plastic and visual arts, literature, heritage, cultural history, etc.). The objective of Culture2000 is to promote a common cultural area characterised by its cultural diversity and shared cultural heritage. It seeks to encourage cultural creation and mobility, access to culture for all, the dissemination of art and culture, intercultural dialogue and knowledge of the history of the European peoples. It also accords culture a social integration and socio-economic development role.

Each year the Community supports annual (Action 1) and multi-annual cultural events and projects (Action 2) carried out in partnership or in the forms of networks.

The annual projects must involve cultural operators from at least three States and respectively the multi-annual projects must involve cultural operators from at least five States participating in the Culture2000 Programme.

The total budget for projects supported under this call for proposals is approximately € 28 million (Action 1 and Action 2). The deadlines for applications under this call for proposals have passed at the moment of the latest update of this document. However, additional calls for proposals are being launched afterwards on the Culture2000 Programme website (see below).

Under the Culture2000 Programme, in April 2004 the European Parliament and the Council adopted a Decision establishing a Community action programme to promote bodies active at European level in the field of culture (http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l_138/l_13820040430en00400049.pdf). The general objective of the programme is to support the activities of these bodies. Under the third part of the programme ("Actions to preserve and commemorate the main sites and archives associated with the deportations, symbolised by the memorials which have been raised on the sites of the former camps and other places of mass-civilian martyrdom and extermination, and to keep alive the memory of the victims at these sites") a call for proposals has been launched on the Culture2000 website.

Eligible candidates are non-profit-making bodies and independent bodies, based in one of the 25 Member States of the European Union. The total available budget for 2006 is € 787.500. The funding requested for projects must range from € 10.000 to € 40.000 and may not exceed 75% of the project's total eligible budget. The period of eligible expenditure must begin by 15 November 2006 at the latest.

Information

Website Culture2000 Programme:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/eac/index_en.html

About calls for proposals under the Culture2000 Programme:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/eac/how_particip2000/how_particip_en.html

About "Support for cultural organisations of European interest":

http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/eac/other_actions/support_eur_org/support_en.html

Specific call for proposals:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/eac/other_actions/support_eur_org/mem_form_en.html

2. Eurochambres - Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents 44 national associations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, thus forming a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers with over 18 million member enterprises in Europe. Its mission is to represent, serve and promote European Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

EuroChambres is also involved in activities focused on the Mediterranean region. These programmes are generally speaking financially supported by the European Commission. The ArchiMedes Programme for instance was a technical assistance programme for Chambers of Commerce in the Southern Mediterranean. The programme has been implemented between February 1999 and June 2001.

A current project in the Euro-Mediterranean Region is the Egyptian Business Institutional Support (EBIS) Project, which aims at supporting Egyptian business

representative organizations (BROs) through training and capacity building initiatives provided by the European Chamber network.

The Turkish Chamber Development Programme (TCDP) has finished its second phase by July 2005. According to the information provided on the Eurochambres website, no third phase is foreseen.

Information

Eurochambres website: <http://www.eurochambres.be>

3. EuroMed Audiovisual

The EuroMed Audiovisual programme aims at enhancing new forms of cooperation between European and Mediterranean operators in the audiovisual sector. This programme supports regional multi-annual projects in the fields of television and cinema, particularly in the following areas: preservation of archives, production and co-production support, broadcasting/distribution and circulation of audiovisual products.

Information

Website on EuroMed Audiovisual:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/med/regional/audiovisual_en.htm

Calls for proposals

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

4. EuroMed Heritage

The EuroMed Heritage programme seeks to primarily to document, promote and protect the material and immaterial heritage of the Mediterranean countries. This objective is to be achieved through the cooperation and exchange of expertise between European and Mediterranean countries and the creation of networks between universities, cultural institutions and museums in the region.

EuroMed Heritage III programme started in 2004 and is funding four projects, in line with the objectives of the two previous editions. At the moment, no new calls for proposals or projects have been launched. Future calls for proposal will be published on the EuropeAid website.

Information

EuroMed Heritage website:

<http://www.euromedheritage.net>

5. Euro-Mediterranean Information Society (EUMEDIS)

In February 1999, the European Commission approved a comprehensive regional MEDA initiative for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society (EUMEDIS), specifically designed to reduce the region's informational and technological gap vis-à-vis the neighbouring countries. EUMEDIS aims at developing regional applications with user communities in the largest number of Mediterranean Partners.

EUMEDIS' purpose is to contribute to the expansion and qualitative improvement of the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society in the pursuit of the overall economic development, quality of life and mutual comprehension, and understanding the objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

Twenty pilot projects have been accepted to receive the EU support and have been active since either 2001 or 2002. At the moment, no new calls for proposals or projects have been launched. Future calls for proposal will be published on the EuropeAid website.

Information

EUMEDIS website:

<http://www.eumedis.net>

6. EuroMed Youth Programme

The EuroMed Youth Programme is one of the regional programmes set up in the third chapter of the Barcelona Process. The programme's goals are to facilitate the integration of young people into social and professional life and stimulate the democratisation of civil society in the Mediterranean Partners. Its more specific aims are to improve mutual comprehension and cohesion between young people across the Mediterranean basin, based on and committed to mutual respect, tolerance and dialogue between the various cultures. Furthermore, it aims at increasing the importance of youth organizations, developing active citizenship of young people and especially young women and promoting the exchange of information, experience and expertise between youth organizations.

The EuroMed Youth Programme I was adopted in 1999 by the European Commission and the Euro-Mediterranean Committee for the Barcelona Process. In 2001, the European Commission adopted a second phase of the EuroMed Youth Programme. In December 2004, EuroMed Youth II came to an end. Before launching phase III, the Commission decided to carry out a review of the centralised management mode of the programme to bring it in line with the principles of decentralised management in the context of the reform of external aid and cooperation. As a result of this review, a significant change in the management of the programme for the Mediterranean countries is currently taking place. **Due to this ongoing decentralisation of the MEDA part of the programme, the selection of EuroMed Youth projects by applicants from Mediterranean partner countries is suspended until the new decentralised management structures will be operational.** This means that, for the time being, applications can be submitted **only by organizations based in EU member states.**

The annual application deadlines for submission of projects are the following:

- 1 February: for projects starting between 1 July and 31 December
- 1 June: for projects starting between 1 November and 30 April
- 1 November: for projects starting between 1 April and 30 September

Further information is available at the YOUTH National Agencies (for contact information see below).

Information:

Website EuroMed Youth Programme:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/priorities/euromed_en.html

About the decentralisation process in EuroMed Youth III:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/priorities/euromed_decentralisation_en.html

Application forms:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/n_forms_en.html

Contact information YOUTH National Agencies:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/contact.pdf>

About selection criteria:

- Selection criteria for Youth Exchanges:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/guide/action1_en.html
- Selection criteria for Voluntary Service:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/guide/action2_en.html
- Selection criteria for Support Measures:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/guide/action5_en.html

7. EU Partnership for Peace Programme

The overall objective of the EU Partnership for Peace Programme is for the EU to work jointly with civil society organizations to build conflict transformation capacities within societies in order to help re-create the conditions for re-launching the peace process and provide a solid foundation for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The programme aims to support initiatives assisting in areas which are likely to have an impact on people's everyday life by including less-politicised, more practical actions, which will aim to rebuild mutual trust through reconciliation, build capacity for conflict resistance, empower marginalized parties and launch joint development policies and strategies.

Calls for proposals will be launched on the EuropeAid website (<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>) and on the websites of the EC Delegation to Israel and the EC Technical Assistance Office for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Information

About the Middle East Peace Process:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/mepp

8. Forum euro-méditerranéen des instituts économiques (Femise)

The Forum euro-méditerranéen des instituts économique is a network of national institutes for political economy, of research organizations and similar independent, non-profit organizations representative of both sides of the Mediterranean. It has for its object: "(i) to conduct policy research and make recommendations with respect to economic relations between Europe and their Mediterranean partners; (ii) to publish and disseminate this research for the benefit of public and private, national and multilateral institutions, (iii) to work for the broadest possible dissemination by the most appropriate means".

Femise member institutes are invited to submit **research proposals** to receive subsidy for their research projects. The topic of the research project should fall under one or more of the subjects specified within the seven themes as detailed in its 2005-2009 research programme:

- Theme 1: The transition and the economic reforms including the economic governance
- Theme 2: Liberalization of agriculture and trade in services
- Theme 3: Development and fight against poverty
- Theme 4: Social policies, notably in terms of public health and employment
- Theme 5: Education, training and the role of women in enterprises
- Theme 6: Euro-Med regional integration and the cooperation and integration between southern countries and the east of the Mediterranean territory

- Theme 7: The role of the state, economic and institutional reform.

All proposals have to be submitted in consortium, including at least one Femise member from the north and one Femise member from the south, or including at least 2 Femise members from the south.

The deadline for the present 2006 internal consultation has already passed (March 13). For this consultation, sixteen research proposals will be selected by the Research Selection Group (RSG) with a total budget of € 640.000, i.e. € 40.000 for each study. Financing will cover 100% of research costs.

Information

Femise website: <http://www.femise.org>

About the research subsidies:

http://www.femise.org/activites/ci2006/guide_admin_gb.html

9. MEDA Programme Cultural Activities

The MEDA programme is the principal financial instrument for the European Union for the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The general objective of the MEDA programme is to turn the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchange and cooperation that requires the promotion of greater understanding between cultures, which is an essential aspect of partnership.

9.1 EC Delegation to Egypt

The Delegation of the European Commission in Egypt, in this call for proposals for cultural activities at local level, will give priority to proposals focused on the promotion of: dialogue and exchange between cultures and civilizations, mutual understanding and visibility of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

The overall indicative amount made available under this call for proposals is **EUR 150,000**. The European Commission reserves the right not to award all available funds.

Any grant awarded under this programme must fall between the following minimum of **EUR 10,000** and maximum of **EUR 40,000**. A grant may not be for less than **25 %** of the total eligible costs of the action. In addition, no grant may exceed **80%** of the total eligible costs of the action. Applications must be submitted using the application form annexed to these Guidelines (Annex A). This form includes a concept note, which must also be completed. Applicants should keep strictly to the format of the application and fill in the paragraphs and the pages in order.

Applicants must apply in English. The applicant should be precise and provide enough detail to ensure the application is clear, particularly as to how the aims of the action will be achieved, the benefits that will flow from it and the way in which it is relevant to the programme's objectives. Applications must be submitted **in one original and 3 copies**. Applications must be received in a sealed envelope by registered mail, private courier service or by hand-delivery (a signed and dated certificate of receipt will be given to the deliverer) at the address below:

Postal or hand delivery address

Delegation of the European Commission in Egypt
Contracts and Finance Section
37, Gamaet El Dowal El Arabeya St.
El Fouad Building 11th floor
Mohandessin, Giza (Cairo)- Egypt

A guidelines is available at this address:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/gestion/index_en.htm).

The eligibility conformity check will only be performed for the proposals that have been provisionally selected according to the score obtained after the final evaluation, on the basis of the supporting documents which will be requested by the European Commission and the Declaration by the applicant signed and sent together with the application . The deadline for receipt applications is **1 October 2006 at 12:00 noon** (Cairo time). Replies will be given no later than **Wednesday 20 September**.

9.2 EC Delegation to Turkey

The Delegation of the European Commission in Turkey, in this call for proposals for cultural activities, launches two new Call for Proposals in the fields of culture and capacity building of NGOs.

The two programmes are :

Civil Society Dialogue: Culture in Action:

This programme foresees mandatory partnerships with counterparts in at least one EU member state. Projects to be selected will focus either on providing information on the EU integration process to enable active involvement of the Turkish public in EU related matters and/or raising interest in different aspects of European culture and arts as an expression of the EU's multi-cultural identity. This programme is also open to the participation of the cultural institutes of EU Member States. **(Deadline: 5 December 2006)**

Strengthening Civil Society Dialogue, Participation in NGO Events in the EU:

This programme aims to enhance participatory democracy through strengthening the capacity of civil initiatives / NGOs in Turkey. The programme provides financial support to study visits, exchanges and attendance of NGO representatives to platforms, meetings and conferences organized in EU Member States. **(Deadline: 30 October 2006)**

Detailed information on those two programmes can be found on the EC Delegation's website <http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int>

10. MED-PACT Programme ("Local Authorities Partnership Programme in the Mediterranean")

Reference: EuropeAid/122713/C/ACT/Multi

Deadline: 2 June 2006

MED-PACT is an inter-city cooperation programme which was decided by the European Commission in 2005 in the framework of the MEDA programme. It relates to the third strand of the Barcelona Partnership, with a view to improving mutual understanding and promoting cultural and social rapprochement. MED-PACT draws lessons from a pilot initiative entitled MED'ACT ("Mediterranean-Europe Development, Action of Cities and Towns"), which financed, during the period 2003-2005, cooperation relationships and joint activities between Mediterranean and European cities in the fields of culture and the environment.

The general objectives of MED-PACT are the following:

- Establish lasting partnerships between EU and Mediterranean cities and their civil societies, or reinforce and deepen the existing ones, with an increased focus on long term aspects and paramount priorities;
- Contribute to promoting more balanced and more sustainable local development patterns in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, including through active efforts to (i) involve citizens in planning and implementation processes and (ii) share knowledge and disseminate experiences, particularly between the Mediterranean Partners themselves.

The budget allocated to this programme is € 5.000.000 in total, including € 4.800.000 for the purpose of awarding co-financing grants, based on this call for proposals. Any grant awarded under this programme must fall between € 300.000 and € 700.000. In addition, no grant may exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action. The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources, or from sources other than the European Community budget.

Information

EuropeAid website (search for "MEDA", "FORECAST" and "OPEN", "GRANTS"):

<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

Guidelines for grant applicants (EN):

http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d13/AOF63813.doc#_Toc125361912

Guidelines for grant applicants (FR):

<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d25/AOF64825.pdf>

Corrigendum for the guidelines for grant applicants:

<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d80/AOF64380.doc>

11. Short and Medium-term Priority Environmental Action Programme (SMAP)

The Short and Medium-term Priority Environmental Action Programme (SMAP) is a framework programme of action for the protection of the Mediterranean environment, within the context of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Its aim is to encourage all Mediterranean Partners to adopt sustainable strategies and policies and to improve the status of the environment in the region.

Five priority areas of action are retained under SMAP: integrated water management; integrated waste management; hot spots (covering both polluted areas and threatened bio-diversity systems); integrated coastal zone management; and combating desertification.

The SMAP is the common basis for environmental purposes (as regards both policy orientation and funding) in the Mediterranean region. As regards any EU funding for activities undertaken by the Mediterranean Partners, the major financial instrument for the implementation of the SMAP is the MEDA Programme, providing funding for

all activities foreseen by the Barcelona Declaration. The latest Call for regional SMAP proposals was scheduled for June 2004.

Information

Website SMAP: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/smap/home.htm>

12. Turkey Pre-Accession Financial Assistance Programme

The European Union provides specific targeted financial aid for acceding countries, candidates and potential future members in order to support their efforts to enhance political, economic and institutional reforms. The European Commission has decided to create a single Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) for the period covered by the next Financial Perspectives (2007-2013). It will replace the 2000-2006 pre-accession financial instruments PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD, the Turkish pre-accession instrument, and the financial instrument for the Western Balkans CARDS.

Following the confirmation of **Turkey's** candidacy at the Helsinki Summit, financial assistance to Turkey was placed within the pre-accession framework. According to this, an annual allocation of € 177 million was foreseen for Turkey in order to implement legal and institutional arrangements. In order to facilitate the management financial assistance and to prevent delays, the EU adopted a decentralized management system. Project management was transferred in 2002 from the European Commission's headquarters in Brussels to its Representation in Turkey. The budget foreseen for Turkey in the revised Accession Partnership published in March 2003 for 2006 is € 500 million. Currently, the pre-accession assistance programme is focusing its activities on two key areas: institution building and investment support.

Calls for proposals in the framework of the Turkey Pre-Accession Financial Assistance Programme will be published on the website of the EC Delegation to Turkey. Currently, the following relevant call for proposals is open:

Deadline: 13 October 2006

The Central Finance and Contracts Unit on behalf of the Republic of Turkey is seeking proposals for grant projects implemented in Turkey with the financial assistance from the European Communities Turkey Pre-Accession Financial Assistance Programme. This call for project proposals aims to promote collaboration between local authorities, the public and among NGOs, by improving institutional capacity of NGOs to take active part in decision-making processes and strengthening participatory democracy. The general objective of the grant scheme is to provide small-scale financial support for initiatives from NGOs working on grass-root level and facilitate and stimulate their networking capacity, project development capacity, their lobbying, campaigns, communication and PR activities. The programme will provide grants to co-finance projects in one of the following thematic areas: women, children, youth, people with disabilities, environment, human rights and culture.

Information

Website EC Delegation to Turkey: <http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int>

For Calls for Proposals:

<http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int/default.asp?pId=13&lang=1&year=2006&mnId=2>

Information about current open Call for Proposals:

<http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int/default.asp?pId=13&lang=1&year=2006&refNo=CFCU%20TR.0401.04&refT=1315&mnId=2>

Programme description of this Call for Proposals:

<http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int/default.asp?lang=1&pId=13&year=2006&month=&mnId=2&refNo=PRG-2006-017&desc=1>

B. Worldwide EU Programmes

1. Co-financing with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

The Co-financing with non-governmental organisations programme (budget line 21020300) aims, among others, at co-financing European NGO's' activities in developing countries particularly in the fields of strengthening civil society and participatory development, promotion and defence of human rights and democracy, the role of women in development, and sustainable development. The main aim of the EC's policy of co-financing with NGOs is poverty reduction through support for disadvantaged people in developing countries designed to meet their basic needs, to improve the quality of their lives and to reinforce their own development capacities.

The NGO's, whose headquarters are located in EU Member States, whose co-financed operations are mainly decided by their headquarters and whose main funding originates in the EU, can benefit from the programme. NGO's in partner developing countries where the operation is planned to take place can also benefit from the programme but only on the initiative of a European NGO and in collaboration with a European NGO.

The launch for a call for proposals is announced on the European Commission's EuropeAid website.

Information

General information:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/ong_cd/pvd_print_en.htm

2. Community Framework for Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Urban Development

As third countries that have concluded Association Agreements with the EU, the Mediterranean Partners are also eligible to participate in Urban Development through a network of local authorities. This Community Framework for co-operation (budget line B4-3050) is a legal instrument allowing the Commission to provide financial and technical support to **networks** of local authorities in promoting sustainable urban development. These networks should consist of local authorities which comprise members from at least four EU and EFTA countries.

Support for projects is available for a maximum of three years and projects financed under other Community programmes are not eligible for funding under this co-operation framework. The level of the financial contribution cannot exceed 95% of the eligible costs.

Following a call for proposals announced by the European Commission, proposals can be submitted by networks of local authorities from eligible countries.

Information

General information:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/funding/urban_en.htm

3. Erasmus Mundus Programme

The Erasmus Mundus Programme is a co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education which promotes the European Union as a centre of excellence in learning around the world. It supports European top-quality Masters Courses and enhances the visibility and attractiveness of European higher education in third countries. It also provides EU-funded scholarships for third country nationals participating in these Masters Courses, as well as scholarships for EU-nationals studying in third countries.

The programme is implemented through four concrete actions:

- *Action 1 - Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses*; they constitute the central component around which Erasmus Mundus is built. They are high-quality integrated courses at masters level offered by a consortium of at least three universities in at least three different European countries. The courses must be "integrated" to be selected under Erasmus Mundus, which means that they must foresee a study period in at least two of the three universities and that it must lead to the award of a recognised double, multiple or joint diploma.
- *Action 2 – Scholarships for third country students and scholars*; in order to give the Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses selected under Action 1 a strong external projection, a scholarship scheme for third-country graduate students and scholars from the whole world is linked to them. This scholarship scheme addresses highly qualified individuals who come to Europe to follow the Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses or to work for them.
- *Action 3 – Partnerships with third-country universities*; in order to encourage European universities to open themselves up to the world and to reinforce their world-wide presence, Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses selected under Action 1 also have the possibility of establishing partnerships with third-country higher education institutions. These partnerships allow for outgoing mobility of graduate EU students and scholars involved in the Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses.
- *Action 4 – Enhancing the attractiveness of European higher education*; Erasmus Mundus also supports projects aimed at enhancing the attractiveness of and the interest in European higher education. It supports activities that improve the profile, the visibility and the accessibility of European higher education as well as issues crucial to the internationalisation of higher education, such as the mutual recognition of qualifications with third countries.

Mediterranean partner countries are eligible for Actions 2, 3, and 4. Calls for proposals will be published on the 'Education and Training' website of the European Commission (see below).

Information

General information European Commission and 'Education and Training':

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/index_en.html

Website: Erasmus Mundus Programme:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html

Latest calls for proposals Erasmus Mundus Programme:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/mundus/call07_en.html

4. European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) is the Commission's service responsible for humanitarian aid throughout the world. The European Union's mandate to ECHO is to provide emergency assistance and relief to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflict outside the European Union. The aid is intended to go directly to those in distress, irrespective of race, religion or political convictions.

ECHO's task is to ensure goods and services get to crisis zones fast. Goods may include essential supplies, specific foodstuffs, medical equipment, medicines and fuel. Services may include medical teams, water purification teams and logistical support. Goods and services reach disaster areas via ECHO partners. Since 1992, ECHO has funded humanitarian aid in more than 85 countries. Its grants cover emergency aid, food aid and aid to refugees and displaced persons worth a total of more than € 500 million per year.

Calls for proposals, tender, and expressions of interest are published regularly on the ECHO website (see below).

Information

Website ECHO: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo>

About Calls for proposals, tender, expressions of interest:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/whatsnew/calls_en.htm

5. European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

The European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is a European Union programme that aims to promote and support human rights and democracy in third countries. Established upon the initiative of the European Parliament in 1994, the main aim of the EIDHR is to promote human rights, democracy and conflict prevention in third countries by providing financial support for activities in these fields. The EIDHR programme brings together a series of budget headings specifically dealing with the promotion of human rights.

The EIDHR Work Programme for 2005-2006 is built around the following four global campaigns:

- Campaign 1: Promoting Justice and the Rule of Law
- Campaign 2: Fostering a Culture of Human Rights
- Campaign 3: Promoting the Democratic Process
- Campaign 4: Advancing Equality, Tolerance and Peace

The EIDHR supports three types of projects, which provide the European Commission with means to implement EU strategies in the fields of democracy and human rights:

- 1) **Macro-projects**, identified through calls for proposals, with an EC contribution of not less than € 300.000, which is implemented by civil society operators including local authorities (but excluding official state, national and international governmental organizations or institutions).
- 2) **Micro-projects**, which are small projects under € 100.000, designed to support small-scale human rights and democratization activities carried out by grassroots' NGOs. Micro-projects are selected through local Calls for Proposals and are managed, under delegated authority, by the European Commission Delegations which have the required managerial capacity and procedures to ensure sound financial management of the programme in the countries concerned.

- 3) **Targeted projects**, which will be identified by the European Commission in the pursuit of specific objectives which cannot be assured through the call for proposals or micro-projects.

5.1 Macro-projects

The Calls for Proposals for the Macro-projects are published on the EuropeAid Calls for Proposals website (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>). The four Calls for Proposals corresponding to the four global campaigns of the EIDHR 2005-2006 work programme are all **closed** at the time of the latest update of this document.

The guidelines for the EIDHR Macro-projects Calls for Proposals are generally similar, only details may vary. Detailed information is available in the specific Guidelines.

Generally speaking, the minimum amount of the EIDHR grants is €300.000 for applicants that are nationals of a EU Member State, or €150.000 for applicants that are nationals of a developing country eligible under this call for country and regional level projects. The maximum amount is €1.000.000 for all applicants. A grant may not be for less than 50% of the total eligible costs of the action. In addition, no grant may exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action. But, specific detailed information is available in the concerned Guidelines.

In some campaigns, Mediterranean Partner Countries are only eligible for the *regional projects*. It must include at least three of the countries of the same region; the region of the Mediterranean and the Middle East includes Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. In some cases, specific Mediterranean Partner Countries are also eligible for *country projects*; detailed information is available in the Campaign's Guidelines.

5.2 Micro-projects

Micro-projects are selected through local Calls for Proposals and are managed by the European Commission Delegations. Generally speaking, the calls for proposals for micro-projects are launched on the Delegations' websites as well as on the EuropeAid website (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>). It is recommended to check the Delegations' websites on this subject regularly.

Currently, there are **three open calls for proposals** for micro-projects under the EIDHR programme:

5.2.1 EIDHR 2005 Micro-projects Algeria– "*Fostering a Culture of Human Rights in Algeria*"

Reference: EuropeAid/123630/L/ACT/DZ

Deadline: 26 August 2006

Budget: € 340 000

The following documents have to be filled in: Grant Application Form, Concept Note, Budget, Logical Framework, Legal Entity File, and Financial Identification Form (see below).

Information

EuropeAid website (search for "OTHER", "FORECAST" and "OPEN", "GRANTS"):
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

On the website of the EC Technical Assistance Office

<http://www.deldza.ec.europa.eu/>

Guidelines for applicants:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

5.2.2 EIDHR 2005 Micro-projects Algeria – "Promoting the Democratic Process"

Reference: EuropeAid/123631/L/ACT/DZ

Deadline: 26 August 2006

Budget : €460.000

The Delegation of the European Commission to Algeria is seeking proposals for small-scale activities and initiatives that support human rights and democracy under EIDHR Micro Projects Programme 2005 (Campaign 3), mainly underpinning and developing democratic electoral processes, strengthening the basis for civil society dialogue and democratic discourse through freedom of association and freedom of expression with particular emphasis on the media environment.

Information

EuropeAid website (search for "OTHER", "FORECAST" and "OPEN", "GRANTS"):

<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

On the website of the EC Technical Assistance Office

<http://www.deldza.ec.europa.eu/>

Guidelines for grant applicants:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

5.2.3 EIDHR Micro-projects Jordan – "Delegation in Jordan"

Reference: EuropeAid/123865/L/G/JO

Deadline: 18 October 2006

Information

EuropeAid website (search for "OTHER", "FORECAST" and "OPEN", "GRANTS"):

Guidelines for applicants:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d60/AOF68560.pl>

5.2.4 EIDHR Micro-projects Jordan – "Micro-projects in Jordan"

Reference: EuropeAid/123863/L/ACT/JO

Deadline: 18 October 2006

Information

EuropeAid website (search for "OTHER", "FORECAST" and "OPEN", "GRANTS"):

<http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

Guidelines for applicants:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d35/AOF68535.pl>

6. Jean Monnet Action

The Jean Monnet Action (budget line 15020100) 'European Integration in University Studies' is a European Commission information project, undertaken at the request of universities, whose aim is to facilitate the introduction of European integration studies in universities by means of start-up subsidies. Mediterranean Partners can also participate, on a co-financing basis, in the setting up of projects concerning European integration issues under the Jean Monnet scheme.

At the moment, the programme covers 55 countries throughout the world and has a total budget of €3.5 million. In all cases grants may not exceed 80% of the total project cost and for third countries EU support for Jean Monnet Centres may not exceed a total of €30,000, and for Chairs €15,000 for the start-up period of three years.

Candidates are required to submit an application for each proposed project in response to the yearly call for proposals announced on the European Commission's Directorate General Education and Culture website.

Information

General information European Commission and 'Education and Training':

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/index_en.html

Website Jean Monnet Action:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/ajm/index_en.html

For calls for proposals:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/ajm/calls/index_en.html

7. LIFE-Third Countries

The objective of LIFE-Third countries is to contribute to the establishment of capacities and administrative structures needed in the environmental sector and in the development of environmental policy and action programmes in third countries bordering on the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea other than central and east European accession candidate countries.

Technical assistance projects are eligible for LIFE-Third countries if they:

- are of interest to the Community, notably through their contribution to implementing regional and international guidelines and agreements;
- promote sustainable development at international, national or regional level;
- provide solutions to major environmental problems in the region and the relevant sector.

Priority is given to projects which will promote cooperation at the transfrontier, transnational or regional level.

The call for proposals as published on the LIFE website was the last call under the current LIFE III programme, which finishes at the end of 2006. There will be no further call under the current LIFE III programme. The new financial support programme for environmental policy, LIFE+, which was proposed by the Commission in September 2004 and is currently being discussed by the Council and European Parliament, may provide future opportunities for funding.

Information

General information:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/home.htm>

Information about LIFE-Third Countries:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/life/third_countries.htm

Information about LIFE funding:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/funding/index.htm>

8. Promoting Gender Equality in Development Cooperation

The main purpose of EU development policy is to stimulate sustainable development in order to eliminate poverty. There is a recognised relationship between gender and poverty. Promoting equality has a crucial role to play in promoting social justice and the effectiveness of development efforts.

Today the European Commission (EC) has a Programme of Action for the mainstreaming of gender equality in Community Development Co-operation. The programme establishes a concrete strategy to translate the final objectives into realistic and measurable objectives. Actions must take place in developing countries. All Mediterranean Partner Countries except for Israel are therefore eligible under these Calls for Proposal.

The deadline regarding the Calls for Proposals for this year has passed. Future calls for proposals will be published on the EuropeAid website (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>).

9. Research Sixth Framework Programme

The Framework Programme is the EU's main instrument for research in Europe. It covers a period of five years and has been implemented since 1984. The Sixth Framework Programme (FP6) is fully operational since January 2003. FP6 aims to contribute to the creation of a true "European Research Area", an internal market for science and technology. It fosters scientific excellence, competitiveness and innovation through the promotion of better cooperation and coordination between relevant actors at all levels.

Activities involving third countries are carried out in two forms: participation of third countries in projects within the seven priority thematic areas; and specific international co-operation activities with selected groups of countries, amongst others the Mediterranean Partner Countries. The indicative budget allocated to Specific International Co-operation activities for the duration of FP6 is € 315 million.

The website of CORDIS (Community Research and Development Information Service) – see below – provides the information needed to participate in the Sixth Framework Programme. Calls for proposals under this programme will be launched on the CORDIS website.

Information

Website CORDIS: <http://cordis.europa.eu.int/en/home.html>

About Specific International Scientific Cooperation Activities:

http://cordis.europa.eu.int/inco/home_en.html

10. Tempus

Mediterranean Partners can participate in the Tempus programme aimed at restructuring higher education in the partner countries. Tempus encourages institutions in the EU Member States and the partner countries to engage in structured co-operation through the establishment of 'consortia'. The 'consortia' implement Joint European Projects (JEPs) with a clear set of objectives. Such projects may receive financial aid for two or three years. Tempus also provides Individual Mobility Grants (IMGs) to individuals working in Higher Education institutions to help them work on certain specified activities in other countries.

Following a call for proposals announced by the European Commission on the Directorate General Education and Culture website, proposals can be submitted by a consortium of institutions from the partner countries and the EU Member States.

Information

General information European Commission and 'Education and Training':

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/index_en.html

Website Tempus:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/tempus/index_en.html

C. European Investment Bank (EIB)/Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP)

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is a major credit provider to the Mediterranean Partners. Between 1992 and 2003, the EIB lent a total of €13.2 million to these countries.

On 18 October 2002, the Finance Ministers of the 15 EU Member States and 12 Mediterranean Partner Countries launched the European Investment Bank's new Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP).

In line with the Wider Europe Neighbourhood Policy, FEMIP aims to help the Mediterranean partner countries meet the challenges of economic and social modernisation and enhanced regional integration, particularly in the run-up to the creation of a customs union with the EU by 2010.

Under FEMIP, the Bank plans to inject €8 to 10 billion in the Mediterranean Partners by 2006; over €7 billion from own resources, around €250 million in risk capital entrusted to it from the EU budget under the MEDA funds, as well as some €100 million in technical assistance provided by the EU in application of the decisions of the Barcelona European Council of March 2002.

FEMIP gives priority to financing private sector ventures, whether local initiatives or foreign direct investment. In order to create an enabling environment for the development of private enterprise, FEMIP also supports infrastructure projects, investment in human capital, and schemes specifically targeting environmental protection. To this end, FEMIP operations primarily involve three types of product: loan, investment capital (equity and quasi-equity), and grant aid for technical assistance. FEMIP also endeavours to promote greater dialogue with all those involved in the Euro-Mediterranean financial partnership, both on the institutional front and with the representatives of the private sector and civil society.

Projects considered for EIB financing must contribute to one or more of the following:

- Economic and social cohesion in the enlarged EU; Implementation of the Innovation 2010 Initiative (i2i);
- Development of Trans-European and Access Networks;
- Environmental protection and improvement, including climate change and renewable energy;
- Support for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as mid-cap companies;

- **Support of EU development and cooperation policies in the Partner Countries.**

Other operational priorities are:

- Support for human capital, notably health

The EIB offers various financial services to support projects, depending on eligibility and project category:

- Loans for SMEs through an intermediary ('Global loans') for local authorities or firms with fewer than 500 employees and having fixed assets of up to €75 million.
- Venture capital to strengthen the equity base of high-technology SMEs and those with strong growth potential.
- Direct loans (also known as 'Individual loans') for promoters in both the public and private sectors, including banks.
- Structured Finance Facility (SFF) for priority projects by complementing the commercial banks and capital markets. These operations will be undertaken chiefly in the countries of the European Union, but also in third countries.

Requests for credits financed in the framework of global loans should be addressed directly to one of the intermediary banks and financing institutions, which operate on the national, regional or local level (see <http://www.eib.org/news/news.asp?news=33> to obtain the list). Requests for venture capital should be addressed directly to an intermediary. Requests for individual loans can be addressed directly to the EIB, without specific formalities, either to its headquarters in Luxembourg, or to one of its external offices (see <http://www.eib.org/contact/offices.asp> for EIB addresses).

Information

General information about FEMIP and the Mediterranean countries:

<http://www.eib.org/site/index.asp?designation=med>

About projects and loans:

<http://www.eib.org/projects>