

Thematic programme "Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development"

Annual Action Programme for 2007

1. IDENTIFICATION

Budget headings	21.03.01 – Non State Actors in Development 21.03.02 – Local Authorities in Development
Total cost	EC contribution: €207.852.900
Legal basis	Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of 27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), and more specifically its article 14.

2. THEMATIC BACKGROUND

The EC has a long standing relationship with non-governmental and other civil society organisations, as well as local and decentralised authorities, in the area of development. In 1976 a first budget line targeting specifically Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) was created, and from 1992 Decentralised co-operation budget line has been added as another privileged channel of cooperation with non-state actors and decentralised authorities in this area of development.

The new thematic programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development", which should be seen as the successor to former budget lines "NGO Co-financing" and "Decentralised Co-operation", aims at supporting small scale initiatives proposed and/or carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities originating from the Community and partner countries in the area of development. This thematic programme recognises the very important role non-state actors and local authorities should play in each country development policies and strategies. Its principal objectives are in line with the Commission Communication on the Thematic Programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development"¹ approved in the context of the EC Financial Perspectives for the period 2007-2013.

The programme's three main objectives are:

- 1) To support development actions, to be implemented by non state actors or local authorities in close cooperation with the local communities and most vulnerable population groups, aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner

¹ COM(2006)19, 25.01.2006

countries and more specifically at improving populations access to social services, increase their participation in policy making processes, strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations and local authorities in partner countries to participate in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies, and facilitate interaction between State and non-State actors in different contexts and support an increased role for local authorities in decentralisation processes. Those actions should take place in partner countries and consist in small-scale local development activities, covering a wide range of sectors and themes, including economic development, health, education, capacity building and institutional support or rural development. Their overarching objective should be the strengthening of civil society in the partner countries as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society.

2) To support small-scale actions in the EU and acceding countries aiming at raising public awareness of development issues and promoting education for development, to mobilise greater public support for action against poverty and fairer relations between developed and developing countries. Those actions should take place in Europe and consist mainly in campaigns, publications, information events and conferences, workshops or seminars, where development themes are openly discussed. The targeted groups are not only the population in general but also policy makers at an international and national level.

3) To support actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue in the area of development between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries, within their organisations and with Community institutions. Those actions should take place in Europe and consist mainly in seminars, workshops, training sessions, conferences and other capacity building and networking activities targeting the above-mentioned organisations.

The Commission adopted on the 21st June 2007 the programme's multi-annual strategy for the period 2007-2010.

The 2007 Annual Action Programme presented below complies with the priorities established in this multi-annual strategy paper and takes into account the comments of the Member States and the European Parliament on that Strategy.

3. SUMMARY OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME²

A. As regards interventions under **Objective 1** "Actions aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries", and according to the multi-annual strategy adopted for the period 2007-2010, the programme supports the following interventions:

(i) In-country interventions (actions taking place in a single partner country), managed by EC Delegations

Under this component, and to ensure compliance of the thematic programme with the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity set out in article 11 of DCI Regulation, priority will be given to interventions in countries where: (a) the country situation is not conducive to ensuring non state actor and local authority involvement in the

² See also the action fiches joint to this programme

development process, including difficult partnerships³, unstable situations, conflict, poor governance etc.; (b) specific needs of parts of the population are not addressed in the partner country development strategy and population groups are out of reach of mainstream services and resources, and excluded from the policy-making process.

A total of 68 priority countries where such support was deemed necessary and feasible according to at least one of the above-mentioned criteria were identified, following two rounds of consultation of Commission services and EC Delegations, which were concluded in July 2007. Attention was paid to the proposed priorities by country, targeted actions and beneficiaries and their added value in relation to geographical and other thematic programmes, as well as to implementation modalities. The list and respective allocations per country under 2007 budget is provided in Action Fiche 1.

As foreseen in the multi-annual strategy paper, support to these in-country interventions will be managed directly by EC Delegations in those priority countries.

Implementation modalities will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A total of 68 calls for proposals is foreseen, one for each country identified as priority. Each country call for proposals will define the respective country priorities and eligible applicants; these will have to be either Non State Actors or Local Authorities, or both. If both types of actors are eligible, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen for each one of them. All these calls for proposals will be published on the EuropeAid website.

For those priority countries where there is no possibility of publishing a local call for proposals, grants for in-country interventions may be awarded via a call for proposals to be launched and managed by EC headquarters. In such cases, the financial envelope for each priority country shall be clearly indicated in the call for proposal.

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to €109.950.000, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €99.265.000 and €10.685.000.

(ii) Global, multi-country interventions and actions in Least Developed Countries or Low Income Countries not included as a priority for "country level interventions", managed by EC headquarters

1. According to the multi-annual strategy paper, part of the programme financial resources will be allocated to the support to global, multi-country interventions which by their very nature are ensured more efficiently through this thematic programme than through geographic programmes.

Priority will be given to global, multi-country actions with a multi-actor approach comprising activities aimed at: (i) improving the capacity of non-state actors and local authorities from those partner countries to engage in local, national and international decision making processes; (ii) improving international linkages and networking

³ Situations of difficult partnership are defined as those where for one of the following reasons the usual cooperation instruments cannot be fully used to support initiatives undertaken by stakeholders other than central governments: (1) countries where cooperation has been suspended, (2) countries where the authorities are not committed to objectives of poverty reduction and to other basic principles of development policy, including good governance and participation of civil society and decentralized authorities, (3) countries where the dialogue on participatory approaches to development is very limited.

between non-state actors and local authorities from the European Community and from the partner countries; (iii) providing innovative service delivery and service delivery in difficult/out of reach environments; (iv) strengthening strategic partnerships, networks and cooperation between non-state actors and local authorities from the partner countries; (v) facilitating interaction between state and non-state actors in different contexts and support an increased role for local authorities in decentralisation processes.

Actions supported under this component of the programme must take place in at least 2 partner countries eligible to this programme according to the DCI Regulation, including those defined as priority countries under the first component of objective 1.

Implementation modalities for these interventions will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters (AIDCO) in Brussels. In this call for proposals a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and for local authorities.

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme is €35.047.500, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €27.209.000 and €7.838.500

2. In addition, interventions in any Least Developed Country or Low Income Country⁴ not included as a priority for "country level interventions" (objective 1, action fiche 1) may also be financed by this programme except in those countries where, after consultation of local Civil Society and Local Authorities, as well as Member States representatives in the concerned countries, it is confirmed that, according to the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity, the country does not meet the priorities set for the programme.

Those actions can cover a wide range of activities in the areas of capacity building and institutional support, advocacy, research, awareness raising, monitoring and service delivery to the population (notably economic development, health, education, rural or urban development). Their overarching objective should be the strengthening of civil society in the partner countries as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society.

Implementation modalities for these interventions will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters (AIDCO) in Brussels. In this call for proposals a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and for local authorities.

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme is €29.855.400, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €23.178.900 and €6.676.500.

Microfinance activities

⁴ According to the DAC List of ODA Recipients effective from 2006 for reporting on 2005, 2006 and 2007.

In the specific case of actions concerning support to microfinance (including micro-credit) under Objective 1 (Action fiche 1 and 2), additional conditions will be applied in order to ensure professional and sustainable delivery of microfinance interventions.

B. As regards interventions under **Objective 2** "actions aiming at raising public awareness of development issues and promote education for development in the EU and acceding countries", priority will be given to actions covering the following themes: (i) Public support for the MDG agenda, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa; (ii) Coherence for development, with a particular focus on areas of public interest where common goals with development are important such as migration, trade (including Fair Trade), security, human rights, social dimension of globalisation and decent work, environment, and HIV/AIDS (iii) Media and development.

These activities will be supported through formal and informal channels promoting education for development. Special attention will be paid to awareness raising and development education in the new member states (EU 12).

Implementation modalities for these interventions will comply with the standard system of call for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters (AIDCO) in Brussels. In this call for proposals, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for actions under objective 2 is €29 million, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of 24.8 million EURO and 4.2 million EURO.

C. As regards interventions under **Objective 3** "actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries", according to the multi-annual strategy 2007-2010 priority will be given to: (i) information networks and exchange of best practices within and among their organisations; (ii) dialogue and exchange of best practice between different types of stakeholders, including between non state actors and local authorities; (iii) interaction of such organisations or networks with the EU institutions.

Implementation modalities for these interventions will comply with the standard procedure of call for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters (AIDCO) in Brussels. In this call for proposals, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for objective 3 of the thematic programme is € 4 million, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of 3.4 million EURO and 0.6 million EURO.

The Community support to the above-mentioned actions will, as a rule, take the form of grants for projects. Without prejudice to provisions of article 169 of the Financial

Regulation, these grants will generally consist of a contribution covering only a proportion of the project's budget.

Basic eligibility rules are defined in Articles 14 and 24 of the DCI Regulation. More specific eligibility criteria for each one of the programme's objectives are detailed in the respective Action Fiches. Besides, other relevant and more specific eligibility criteria will be clearly stated in all calls for proposals or procurement procedures.

Publication of the above-mentioned calls for proposals is expected for the end of 2007 or January 2008.

Mainstreaming

Whenever possible, mainstreaming of human rights, gender equality, children and older people rights, rights of persons with disabilities, environment and climate change, as well as fight against HIV/AIDS, will be ensured in projects under all objectives. All projects will need to show, whenever relevant, how these issues are taken into account in the design, implementation and monitoring of their activities. Principles such as empowerment, participation, non-discrimination of vulnerable groups and accountability will be adequately taken into account.

Expected results

Considering the nature of this programme, which encompasses a wide range of activities and sectors, the results to be expected from these interventions are very diverse. However, one could mention as examples of expected results the strengthening of the capacity of non state actors and local authorities to participate in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies, acceptance by governments to mainstream institutional support and capacity building provisions for local development structures, increased number of trans-national exchanges, confidence building, networking and coordination activities between Non State Actors and Local Authorities (North-South or South-South), increased public awareness on global interdependencies between the EU and developing countries and support for action against poverty and more equitable North-South relations, in a better integration of development issues into formal and non-formal education systems in Member States and acceding countries, or strengthening of Non State Actors and Local Authority networks and platforms in Europe and acceding countries.

4. PAST EC ASSISTANCE AND LESSONS LEARNT

According to the last evaluation of former thematic programme "NGO co-financing", dating from 2000, in general the actions supported through this instrument succeeded in delivering the planned outputs and reached their immediate objectives. Their success rate, in terms of immediate results, were higher than most of other cooperation instruments, which seems to confirm the advantage of working with civil society organisations and their added value when it comes to actions targeting directly the most vulnerable groups. However the evaluation also highlighted the fact that the programme lacked strategic focus and needed to be better targeted on the poorest countries and definition of thematic priorities. While recognising the right of initiative of civil society organisations to propose actions to be funded by the programme, the evaluation recommended that the budget line should provide a clearer indication of priority countries and regions where the programme could demonstrate an added value

as well as thematic priorities and types of activity to be supported. Besides, the evaluation also recommended working directly with organisations from beneficiary countries as the best way to strengthen the capacity of those organisations and beneficiary countries civil society in general. This need has also been confirmed by the majority of different stakeholders.

Moreover, following the recommendations of previous evaluations, since 2004, the former Decentralised Cooperation budget line targeted a narrower group of priority countries and themes and endeavoured to work more closely with local organisations. Accordingly, since then its management has been "deconcentrated" to the respective EC Delegations, with very encouraging results according to its last evaluation concluded in July 2006.

The new thematic programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in development" builds on the experience of those two former budget lines recommendations made in their most recent evaluations and aims at a better geographic and thematic focus and better complementarity and subsidiarity with other EC cooperation instruments. The need to enhance local ownership by improving access by non state actors and local authorities from the countries and regions targeted by the programme has led to the expansion of locally managed country specific interventions. This development aims not only at building on the experience of former Decentralised Co-operation budget line but also on the experience with the Country Based Support Schemes of the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). Furthermore, this more strategic and focused approach corresponds to the principle of implementing different co-operation instruments as closely as possible to the beneficiaries, which led to the deconcentration of the thematic programmes in 2004.

5. COMPLEMENTARY ACTIONS

Actions included in this AAP complement the various EC cooperation instruments, both geographic and thematic, and in particular actions to be supported through the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

6. DONOR CO-ORDINATION

Co-ordination and regular consultation with Member States are ensured through the various political channels and committees at central level as well as at local level through the EC Delegations.

In this context, reference should be made to the ongoing project DECIM "Donor exchange, coordination & information mechanism", funded under former NGO Co-financing budget line, where EU Member States are closely involved and which aims precisely at supporting a donor exchange, coordination and information mechanism to enhance the effectiveness of donors in attaining their goals in the area of civil society development.

7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

It is envisaged to further develop the communication and visibility of the thematic programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development" in particular by updating the website in accordance with a common new AIDCO template which will provide a more user-friendly communication tool, and by producing leaflets and

brochures presenting this new thematic programme, to be distributed also at Delegation level.

Attention will continue to be paid to the compliance with visibility and communication rules for each action supported through this programme.

At the local level, EC Delegations will be able to spend up to 3% of the respective annual operational country allocation for support measures accompanying the implementation of country-based support schemes, including activities in the field of communication benefiting directly the organisation/partners. These activities or expenditure are thus not aiming at helping the delegation to manage the programme, such as technical assistance for the evaluation of proposals or follow-up of the programme.

8. COST AND FINANCING

Objective 1 - Actions aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries –In-country interventions managed by EC Delegations - (Action fiche 1)	BL 21.03.01	€99.265.000
	BL 21.03.02	€10.685.000
		€109.950.000
TOTAL		
Objective 1 - Actions aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries - Global/multi-country interventions and actions in LDC or LIC not included as a priority for "country level interventions" - (Action fiche 2)	BL 21.03.01	€50.387.900
	BL 21.03.02	€14.515.000
		€64.902.900
TOTAL		
Objective 2 - Actions aiming at raising public awareness of development issues and promote education for development in the EU and acceding countries - (Action fiche 3)	BL 21.03.01	€24.800.000
	BL 21.03.02	€4.200.000
		€29.000.000
TOTAL		
Objective 3 - Actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries - (Action fiche 4)	BL 21.03.01	€3.400.000
	BL 21.03.02	€600.000
		€4.000.000
TOTAL		
GLOBAL AMOUNT		€207.852.900

Any remaining balance from one action may be reallocated to the budget of another action, preferably within the same strategic objective.

Within the maximum indicative budget of all the specific actions, cumulated changes not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the Community are not considered to be substantial provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the Annual Action Programme. In this context, transfer of funds between budget line 21.03.02 and 21.03.01 will also be allowed. The authorising officer may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

In addition to the interventions mentioned above, for 2007, three grants have already been directly awarded through individual financing decisions for three actions corresponding to objectives 2 and 3 of the thematic programme and which constitute a situation of *de facto* monopoly, within the meaning of the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Rules. Those three grants are respectively for:

- a) Operating grant to CONCORD (European Confederation of Relief and Development Non Governmental Organisation), with a duration of 12 months, for which the EC maximum contribution amounts to €660,480.00;
- b) Project "New dynamics of North-South Solidarity: Promoting an active involvement of Civil Society in the Euro-African dialogue - The Presidency Project of Portuguese NGOs", submitted by the Portuguese Development NGO platform, with a duration of 12 months and for which the EC maximum contribution amounts to €171,843.00;
- c) Project "Difference is our strength: Development Education and Awareness Raising in Slovenia - The presidency project of SLOGA", submitted by SLOGA, the Slovenian Development NGO platform, with a duration of 12 months and for which the EC maximum contribution amounts to €240,000.00;

EC support to these three interventions amounts to a total of €1.072.323.

ANNEX I TO AAP

ACTION FICHE 1

NON-STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE 1

IN-COUNTRY INTERVENTIONS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Promotion of an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries to facilitate non-state actor and local authority participation in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies - Support to in-country interventions (actions taking place in a single partner country).		
Total cost	EC contribution: € 109.950.000		
Method/Management mode	Project approach - Calls for Proposals managed by EC Delegations in third countries Total of 68 countries – <i>Centralised (direct)</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	15150	Sector	Strengthening of civil society

2. RATIONALE

This thematic programme aims at supporting initiatives proposed and/or carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities originating from the Community and partner countries in the area of development. **The programme's objective 1 is to support operations aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries in order to (i) benefit populations out of reach of mainstream services and resources and excluded from policy making processes; (ii) strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations and local authorities in partner countries, with a view to facilitating their participation in defining and implementing poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies; and (iii) facilitate interaction between State and non-State actors in different contexts and support an increased role for local authorities in decentralisation processes.**

According to the thematic programme's multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010 identifies, support to Objective 1 activities will be provided mainly through the implementation of in-country initiatives and projects.

This Action Fiche defines the implementation modalities of the Objective 1 in-country interventions managed by EC Delegations.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS

3.1. Basic acts and Financing sources

Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of

27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), adopted on the 18 December 2006, and in particular its article 14.

This Action will be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €9.265 million and €10.685 million. Budget line 21 03 01 will finance actions submitted by non-state actors, while budget line 21 03 02 will finance actions submitted by local authorities.

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities of the year, expected results

In line with the provisions of the DCI Regulation (in particular its article 11), the multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010 foresees that in-country interventions to be supported under this component of the programme should be subsidiary to EC country strategy papers (CSP) and complement other EC thematic programmes, including the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.

According to the multi-annual strategy, in-country interventions should be targeted on countries where; (a) *the country situation is not conducive to ensuring non state actor and local authority involvement in the development process, including difficult partnerships⁵, unstable situations, conflict, poor governance etc.*; (b) *specific needs of a significant part of the population are not addressed in the partner country development strategy and population groups are out of reach of mainstream services and resources, and excluded from the policy-making process.*

These interventions shall comprise small-scale local development activities in a wide range of sectors and themes, including economic development, health, education, capacity building and institutional support or rural development. The overarching objective shall be the strengthening of civil society and local authorities in partner countries as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society

A total of 68 priority countries where support under this programme is deemed necessary and feasible according to at least one of the above-mentioned criteria were identified after two rounds of consultation of Commission services and Delegations, which took place respectively in June-July 2006 and April-July 2007.

Following the first round of consultation, an indicative list of potential priority countries where the intervention of this thematic programme could be justified was established. As foreseen in the multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010, EC Delegations in those countries (or other Commission services for instance in countries where no Delegation exists) were invited, in a second round of consultation, to submit a concept note to headquarters outlining a country programme for the period 2007-2010. The aim of this second exercise was essentially to transpose the principles and orientations of the thematic strategy paper into the country context. This second round of consultations was conducted by an inter-service group chaired by DG DEV and composed by representatives from DG

⁵ Situations of difficult partnership are defined as those where for one of the following reasons the usual cooperation instruments cannot be fully used to support initiatives undertaken by stakeholders other than central governments: (1) countries where cooperation has been suspended, (2) countries where the authorities are not committed to objectives of poverty reduction and to other basic principles of development policy, including good governance and participation of civil society and decentralized authorities, (3) countries where the dialogue on participatory approaches to development is very limited.

RELEX and AIDCO. In establishing the list of priority countries, attention was paid not only to compliance with the two above-mentioned criteria, but also to the proposed priorities by country, targeted actions and beneficiaries and their added value in relation to geographical and other thematic programmes, as well as to the implementation modalities.

During this exercise, the opinions and views of civil society organisations and other stakeholders at country level concerned were taken into account as far as possible given the particular timing constraints for the 2007 exercise.

This exercise was concluded in July 2007 and the resulting list of priority countries, including the respective country envelopes, is presented below under paragraph 3.

Expected results

Considering the nature of the programme, which encompasses a wide range of activities and sectors, and the different priorities and sectors/actors targeted by the country programmes, the results to be expected from these interventions are very diverse. Those results could consist, among others, in: (i) increased capacity of non state actors and local authorities to strengthen their participation in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies; (ii) changes in government policy and practice towards NSA and local authorities in favour of their involvement in the development process; (iii) better access of the poorest sections of the population to social services and increased participation of those groups in the policy making processes, including particularly marginalized and vulnerable groups ; (iv) increased interaction between state and non-state actors in different contexts, including non state actor involvement in policy dialogue with government and capacity to play an oversight role.

3.3. Implementation scenario and eligibility conditions

Country-based programmes: country approach, with support schemes managed at country level by EC Delegations, building on the experience acquired since 2004 with the deconcentrated management of former Decentralised Co-operation budget line, as well as the micro project facilities under former European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

European Community support to the above-mentioned actions will, as a rule, take the form of grants.

Awarding of grants under this local component of the programme will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. Considering the high number of proposals expected, the system of restricted calls for proposals (concept notes + complete proposals) will, in principle, be used.

As stated above, and in line with the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity as defined in the DCI Regulation (article 11), each country call for proposals will define the respective country priorities and eligible applicants. These will be either Non State Actors or Local Authorities, or both. If both types of actors are eligible, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen for each of them. Once the country programme targets one type of actor (Non State Actors and/or Local Authorities), eligibility of both European and local organisations shall normally be mandatory. Any exclusion of an actor on the grounds of its European or local origin should be duly justified by the Delegation and endorsed by Headquarters. This does not prevent EC Delegations from

giving priority to certain types of actors but, in such cases, the guidelines for the call will have to specify how this priority will be implemented.

A total of 68 calls for proposals is foreseen, one for each country listed below. For those priority countries where there is no possibility of publishing a local call, grants for in-country interventions may be awarded via calls for proposals to be launched and managed by EC headquarters in Brussels. In such cases, the call for proposals will clearly indicate each financial envelope by country.

All calls for proposals will be published on the EuropeAid central website.

Grants awarded following a local call for proposals are managed entirely by EC Delegations.

Eligibility in conformity with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006: For the in-country component of the programme, all types of non profit making non-state actors and local authorities whose headquarters are in a Member State of the European Union or in one of the countries included in the list of priority countries where the action is taking place are eligible. In addition, to have access to funding under this component of the thematic programme, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country. They must have been registered for at least three years at the time of the submission of an application and must be able to demonstrate to have regularly carried out activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme during that period. In exceptional circumstances and when duly justified, this requirement for official registration could be waived. As far as partner countries organisations are concerned this legal existence requirement can be reduced to two years.

All actions should be based on an initiative of local partners and should ensure their involvement during all the stages of the action implementation. Non-state actors or local authorities originating from the European Community which propose an action must demonstrate an established and effective partnership with local organisations in the partner countries where the actions are taking place.

Geographical focus:

The list of priority countries and respective allocations per budget line foreseen for **2007** is provided hereafter.

African, Caribbean and Pacific countries

	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Angola	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Cameroun	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Chad	900.000 €	100.000 €	1.000.000 €
Congo Brazzaville	1.000.000 €		1.000.000 €

Cuba	250.000 €		250.000 €
DRC	1.250.000 €		1.250.000 €
Equatorial Guinea	200.000 €		200.000 €
Eritrea	250.000 €		250.000 €
Guinea Bissau	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Guinea Conakry	500.000 €		500.000 €
Guyana	700.000 €	300.000 €	1.000.000 €
Ivory Coast	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Kenya	3.375.000 €		3.375.000 €
Madagascar	1.500.000 €		1.500.000 €
Malawi		400.000 €	400.000 €
Mozambique	2.500.000 €	500.000 €	3.000.000 €
PNG	1.000.000 €		1.000.000 €
RCA	2.150.000 €	350.000 €	2.500.000 €
Rwanda	1.800.000 €	200.000 €	2.000.000 €
Samoa	250.000 €		250.000 €
Sierra Leone	2.550.000 €	450.000 €	3.000.000 €
Somalia	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Sudan	3.000.000 €		3.000.000 €
Swaziland (*)	750.000 €		750.000 €
Uganda	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Vanuatu	250.000 €		250.000 €
Zambia	2.000.000 €	750.000 €	2.750.000 €
Zimbabwe	1.700.000 €	300.000 €	2.000.000 €
TOTAL	41.375.000 €	3.350.000 €	44.725.000 €

Central and South America countries

	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Argentina	375.000 €	250.000 €	625.000 €
Bolivia	2.500.000 €	500.000 €	3.000.000 €
Brazil	3.250.000 €	750.000 €	4.000.000 €
Chile	800.000 €	200.000 €	1.000.000 €
Colombia	2.050.000 €	450.000 €	2.500.000 €
Ecuador	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
El Salvador	1.700.000 €	300.000 €	2.000.000 €
Guatemala	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Honduras	680.000 €	120.000 €	800.000 €
Nicaragua	2.050.000 €	450.000 €	2.500.000 €
Paraguay	510.000 €	90.000 €	600.000 €
Peru	1.750.000 €	250.000 €	2.000.000 €
Uruguay	350.000 €		350.000 €
Venezuela	1.900.000 €	100.000 €	2.000.000 €
TOTAL	21.915.000 €	3.460.000 €	25.375.000 €

Asia countries

	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Bangladesh	3.000.000€		3.000.000€
Burma / Myanmar	2.000.000€		2.000.000€
Cambodia	2.500.000€		2.500.000€
China (*)	2.000.000€		2.000.000€
India	4.000.000€		4.000.000€
Indonesia	850.000€	150.000€	1.000.000€

Iran (*)	1.000.000€		1.000.000€
Kazakhstan	300.000€	300.000€	600.000€
Kyrgyzstan	600.000€		600.000€
Laos	2.050.000€	450.000€	2.500.000€
Mongolia (*)	1.000.000€		1.000.000€
Nepal	2.000.000€		2.000.000€
North Korea (*)	500.000€		500.000€
Pakistan	1.700.000€	300.000€	2.000.000€
Philippines	2.100.000€	400.000€	2.500.000€
Sri Lanka	1.000.000€		1.000.000€
Tajikistan	750.000€		750.000€
Uzbekistan (*)	375.000€	375.000€	750.000€
Vietnam	850.000€	150.000€	1.000.000€
TOTAL	28.575.000€	2.125.000€	30.700.000€

Eastern Europe, Mediterranean and Middle East

	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Armenia	750.000€	750.000€	1.500.000€
Azerbaijan (*)	1.000.000€		1.000.000€
Belarus	750.000€	250.000€	1.000.000€
Georgia	1.700.000€	300.000€	2.000.000€
Syria	150.000€		150.000€
West Bank and Gaza Strip	2.000.000€		2.000.000€
Yemen	1.050.000€	450.000€	1.500.000€
TOTAL	7.400.000€	1.750.000€	9.150.000€

(*) For these countries the respective in-country programme may be managed by EC headquarters

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Modalities, as well as the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum possible rate of EC co-financing of the action total eligible costs for actions to be funded under this component of objective 1 are the following:

- Partner countries Non State Actors:	maximum 90 %
- Partner countries Local Authorities:	maximum 90 %
- European Non State Actors	maximum 75 %
- European Local Authorities:	maximum 75 %

Grants awarded under this component of the programme must fall between a minimum of € 20.000 and a maximum of 1.000.000€ Each Delegation may determine the minimum and maximum amounts of grants, provided these amounts stay within the abovementioned limits.

The initial foreseen duration of an action may not be lower than 12 months nor exceed 60 months. Each Delegation may determine the minimum and maximum durations, provided these stay within the above-mentioned limits.

Microfinance activities

As regards microfinance activities, additional conditions will be applied in order to ensure more professional and sustainable delivery of microfinance interventions. Details of these conditions will be contained in the guidelines for calls for proposals: they aim at achieving professionalization and sustainability through introduction of minimum requirements as regards the applicant's expertise (i.e. the capacity to provide financial services according to agreed international standards of good practice) and experience (track record in the microfinance field), application of selection criteria on the type and design of the actions, and inclusion of performance measuring and monitoring system concerning the actions.

3.5. Schedule of implementation

Calls for proposals are expected to be published towards the end of 2007 or January 2008.

3.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to €109.950.000.

Any remaining balance not used due to lack of quality proposals in a given country may be reallocated to another country, preferably in the same region, or, alternatively, to fund other components of the programme, preferably under objective 1.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

Applicants will be invited to foresee systematically evaluations under each project's budget. A general mid-term evaluation of the whole thematic programme is foreseen for 2009. Monitoring and follow up missions by the operational staff or external consultants of the Commission will be conducted regularly. Close information links will therefore need to be maintained between EuropeAid headquarters and Commission Delegations.

EC Delegations will be able to spend up to 3% of the respective annual operational country allocation for support measures accompanying the implementation of this component of objective 1 of the thematic programme. Those accompanying support measures must cover activities which are of direct benefit to the organisations/partners targeted by the country programme, such as training seminars and workshops, information sessions or special events to publicise the programme. Support measures do not cover activities or expenditure aimed at helping the delegation to manage the programme, such as technical assistance for the evaluation of proposals or follow-up of the programme.

Such support measures must be implemented in accordance with the European Commission's standard procedures for the implementation of external actions.

ANNEX II TO AAP

ACTION FICHE 2

NON-STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE 1

GLOBAL, MULTI-COUNTRY/REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS IN LEAST DEVELOPED OR LOW INCOME COUNTRIES NOT INCLUDED AS A PRIORITY FOR "COUNTRY LEVEL INTERVENTIONS"

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promotion of an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries to facilitate non-state actor and local authority participation in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies - Support to initiatives to be carried out in partner countries with a global, multi-country or multi-regional dimension and to actions in Least Developed Countries or Low Income Countries not included as a priority for "country level interventions".		
Total cost	EC contribution: € 64.902.900		
Method/Management mode	Project approach - Centralised Call for proposals managed by AIDCO Headquarters - <i>Centralised (direct)</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	15150	Sector	Strengthening of civil society

9. 2. RATIONALE

This thematic programme aims at supporting initiatives proposed and/or carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities originating from the Community and partner countries in the area of development. **The programme's objective 1 is to support operations aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries in order to (i) benefit populations out of reach of mainstream services and resources and excluded from policy making processes; (ii) strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations and local authorities in partner countries, with a view to facilitating their participation in defining and implementing poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies; and (iii) facilitate interaction between State and non-State actors in different contexts and support an increased role for local authorities in decentralisation processes.**

This Action Fiche defines the implementation modalities of the Objective 1 global/multi-country interventions, and actions in Least Developed Countries or Low Income Countries not included as a priority for "country level interventions", to be managed by AIDCO EC headquarters.

10. 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS

10.1. 3.1. Basic acts and Financing sources

Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of 27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), adopted on the 18 December 2006, and in particular its article 14.

This Action will be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €50.387.900 and €14.515.000 Budget line 21 03 01 will finance actions submitted by non-state actors, while budget line 21 03 02 will finance actions submitted by local authorities

10.2. 3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities of the year, expected results

3.2.1. According to the programme's multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010, under Objective 1 a substantial part of the programme's financial resources will be allocated to support multi-country and/or multi-regional interventions, networking and coordination activities ensured more efficiently through the thematic programme than through geographic programmes.

Priority will be given to global, multi-country actions with a multi-actor approach comprising activities aiming at: (i) improving the capacity of non-state actors and local authorities from those partner countries to engage in local, national and international decision making processes; (ii) improving international linkages and networking between non-state actors and local authorities from the European Community and from the partner countries; (iii) providing innovative service delivery and service delivery in difficult/out of reach environments; (iv) strengthening strategic partnerships, networks and cooperation between non-state actors and local authorities from the partner countries; (v) facilitating interaction between state and non-state actors in different contexts and support an increased role for local authorities in decentralisation processes.

Considering that there is a clear need to strengthen the capacity of local organisations in developing countries, inform citizens about their rights, increase their capacity to understand government policies and their implications on poverty and inequality, as well as the internal and international context in which decisions affecting their daily life are being taken, all actions to be supported under this component of the programme must include an element of capacity building.

All actions should be based on an initiative of local partners and should ensure their involvement during all the stages of the action implementation. Actions proposed by non-state actors or local authorities originating from the European Union must demonstrate to have an established and effective partnership with local organisations in the partner countries where the actions are taking place.

Geographical focus

Actions supported under this component of the programme must take place in at least 2 countries eligible to this programme according to the DCI Regulation, including those defined as priority countries under the first component of objective 1.

An indicative financial envelope of €35.047.500, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development" for an amount respectively of €27.209.000 and €7.838.500, is reserved for this component of the thematic programme.

- 3.2.2.** In addition to this global/multi-country actions, interventions in any Least Developed Country or Low Income Country⁶ not included as a priority for "country level interventions" (objective 1, action fiche 1) may also be financed by this component of the programme, except in those countries where, after consultation of local Civil Society and Local Authorities, as well as Member States representatives in the concerned countries, it is confirmed that, according to the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity, the country does not meet the priorities set for the programme.

Those actions can cover a wide range of activities in the areas of capacity building and institutional support, advocacy, research, awareness raising, monitoring and service delivery to the population (notably economic development, health, education, rural or urban development). Their overarching objective should be the strengthening of civil society in the partner countries as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society.

An indicative financial envelope of €29.855.400, to be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of €23.178.900 and €6.676.500, is reserved for this component of the thematic programme.

Expected results

Considering the nature of the programme, which encompasses a wide range of activities and sectors, and the different priorities and sectors/actors targeted, the results to be expected from these interventions are very diverse.

As regards global/multi-country interventions, those results could consist, among others, in an increased number of trans-national exchanges, confidence building, networking and coordination activities between Non State Actors and Local Authorities (North-South or South-South), an increase in local civil society and local authorities' support for and involvement in global and regional development processes and dialogues and/or dissemination of best practices at global or regional level and replication at national or local level. Initiatives and projects with a supranational dimension may lead to an added value vis-à-vis the country programmes and to increased support of local populations and their involvement in regional integration processes.

As regards interventions in the above-mentioned Least Developed or Low Income Countries not included as a priority for "country level interventions", those results could consist, among others, in an increased capacity of non state actors and local authorities to strengthen their participation in poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies, changes in government policy and practice towards NSA and local authorities in favour of their involvement in the development process, better

⁶ According to the DAC List of ODA Recipients effective from 2006 for reporting on 2005, 2006 and 2007.

access of the poorest sections of the population to social services and increased participation of those groups in the policy making processes.

10.3. 3.3. Implementation scenario and eligibility conditions

European Community support to the above-mentioned actions will, as a rule, take the form of grants.

Awarding of grants under this component of the programme will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by Headquarters in Brussels. Considering the high number of proposals expected, EuropeAid plans, in principle, to publish a restricted call for proposals (concept notes + complete proposals). In this call for proposals, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

Grants awarded following this global call for proposals are selected by the Commission Headquarters, in cooperation with EC Delegations, and are managed either by EC headquarters or, whenever possible, by EC Delegations.

Eligibility in conformity with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006: For this component of the programme all types of non profit making non-state actors and local authorities whose headquarters are in a Member State of the European Union or in one of the countries where the action is taking place are eligible. In addition, to have access to funding under this component of the thematic programme, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country. For global/multi-country interventions, all non state actors must have been registered for at least five years at the time of the submission of an application and must be able to demonstrate to have regularly carried out activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme during that period. For interventions in the above-mentioned Least Developed or Low Income Countries, all non state actors must have been registered for at least three years at the time of the submission of an application and must be able to demonstrate to have regularly carried out activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme during that period. As far as partner countries organisations are concerned this legal existence requirement can be reduced to two years.

In exceptional circumstances and when duly justified, this requirement for official registration could be waved.

Actions proposed by non-state actors or local authorities originating from the European Union must demonstrate to have an established and effective partnership with local organisations in the partner countries where the actions are taking place. These local partners should be involved during all stages of the implementation of the action.

10.4. 3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Modalities, as well as the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum possible rate of EC co-financing for actions to be funded under this component of objective 1 of the new thematic programme "Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development" is 75% of the action total eligible costs for European Non State Actors and Local Authorities and 90% of the action total eligible costs for partner countries Non State Actors and Local Authorities.

Grants awarded must fall between € 500,000 and € 4,000,000 for global/multi-country interventions and between €20.000 and 1.000.000€ for interventions in the above-mentioned Least Developed or Low Income Countries.

The initial planned duration of an action may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 60 months for global/multi-country interventions and may not be lower than 12 months nor exceed 60 months for interventions in the above-mentioned Least Developed or Low Income Countries.

Microfinance activities

As regards microfinance activities, additional conditions will be applied in order to ensure professional and sustainable delivery of microfinance interventions. Details of these conditions will be contained in the guidelines for calls for proposals: they aim at achieving professionalization and sustainability through introduction of minimum requirements as regards the applicant's expertise (i.e. the capacity to provide financial services according to agreed international standards of good practice) and experience (track record in the microfinance field), application of selection criteria on the type and design of the actions, and inclusion of performance measuring and monitoring system concerning the actions.

10.5. 3.5. Schedule of implementation

Publication of calls for proposals is expected for the end of 2007 or January 2008.

10.6. 3.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme is of €64.902.900.

Any remaining balance not used due to lack of quality proposals may be reallocated for funding of other objectives of the thematic programme, preferably to fund other actions under objective 1 of the programme.

11. 4. SUPPORT MEASURES

Applicants will be invited to foresee systematically evaluations under each project's budget. A general mid-term evaluation of the whole thematic programme is foreseen for 2009. Monitoring and follow up missions by the operational staff or external consultants of the Commission will be conducted regularly. Close information links

will therefore need to be maintained between EuropeAid headquarters and Commission Delegations.

Such support measures must be implemented in accordance with the European Commission's standard procedures for the implementation of external actions.

ANNEX III TO AAP

ACTION FICHE 3

NON-STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE 2

ED (DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION)

5. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Raise public awareness of development issues and promote education for development in the EU and acceding countries to anchor development policy in European societies, to mobilise greater public support for action against poverty and fairer relations between developed and developing countries, and to change attitudes to the issues and difficulties facing developing countries and their peoples.		
Total cost	EC contribution: € 29.000.000		
Method/Management mode	Project approach - Centralised Call for proposals managed by AIDCO Headquarters - <i>Centralised (direct)</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	99820	Sector	Promotion of development awareness

6. RATIONALE

This thematic programme aims at supporting initiatives proposed and/or carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities originating from the Community and partner countries in the area of development. **The programme's objective 2 is to support actions aiming at raising public awareness of development issues and promote education for development in the EU and acceding countries to anchor development policy in European societies, to mobilise greater public support for action against poverty and fairer relations between developed and developing countries, and to change attitudes to the issues and difficulties facing developing countries and their peoples.**

This Action Fiche defines the implementation modalities of the Objective 2 of the thematic programme to be managed by AIDCO EC headquarters.

7. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS

7.1. Basic acts and Financing sources

Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of 27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), adopted on the 18 December 2006, and in particular its article 14.

This Action will be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 (credits C1) "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 (credits C1) "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of 24.8 million EURO and 4.2 million EURO. Budget line 21

03 01 will finance actions proposed by non-state actors, while budget line 21 03 02 will finance actions proposed by local authorities.

7.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities of the year, expected results

According to the multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010, and in order to maximise the impact and effectiveness of development education actions, under the thematic programme's objective 2 priority should be given to actions covering the following themes:

- Public support for the MDG agenda, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa;
- Coherence for development, with a particular focus on areas of public interest where common goals with development are important such as migration, trade (including Fair Trade), security, human rights, social dimension of globalisation and decent work, environment, and HIV/AIDS;
- Media and development.

These activities will be supported through formal and informal channels supporting education for development. Attention will be paid to ensuring that these interventions are integrated with development and education policies at both national and European levels. Preference will be given to cross-border and multi-actor initiatives. While these actions are carried out in Europe, partners in developing countries should play an active part where appropriate. Besides, special attention will be paid to awareness raising and development education in the new member states (EU 12).

Those actions consist mainly in campaigns, publications, information events and conferences, workshops or seminars, where development themes are openly discussed. The targeted groups are not only the population in general but also policy makers at international and national level.

All actions should be based on an initiative of a local organisation from the country/countries where the action is taking place, and their involvement should be ensured during all stages of implementation.

Geographical focus:

These actions must take place in one or more Member States of the European Union or in acceding countries.

Expected results could be among others, increased public awareness on global interdependencies between the EU and developing countries and support for action against poverty and more equitable North-South relations, change in attitudes and improved public understanding of the issues and difficulties facing developing countries and their peoples, better integration of development issues into formal and non-formal education systems in Member States and acceding countries, better integration of development cooperation objectives in all EU policies with a likely impact on developing countries, and greater mobilisation in new Member States and acceding countries, including through networking, campaign work, exchange of experience and best practices.

7.3. Implementation scenario and eligibility conditions

European Community support to the above-mentioned actions will, as a rule, take the form of grants.

Awarding of grants under this component of the programme will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by AIDCO headquarters in Brussels. Considering the high number of proposals expected EuropeAid plans in principle to publish a restricted call for proposals (concept notes + complete proposals). In this call for proposals a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

Eligibility in conformity with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006: For this component of the programme all types of non profit making non-state actors and local authorities whose headquarters are in a Member State of the European Union or in an acceding country are eligible. Besides, to have access to funding under this component of the thematic programme, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country. They must have been registered for at least three years at the time of the submission of an application and they must be able to demonstrate to have regularly carried out activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme during that period. As far as organisations from the twelve new member States are concerned this legal existence requirement can be reduced to two years.

7.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Modalities, as well as the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

As a general rule, the maximum possible rate of EC co-financing for actions to be funded under this objective 2 of the programme is 75% of the action total eligible costs.

Grants awarded must fall between €100,000 and €1,000,000.

Exceptionally, and exclusively for actions proposed by organisations from the 12 New Member States, the rate of EC co-financing can correspond to 90% of the action total eligible costs and the grant awarded can be as low as €25,000.

The initial foreseen duration of an action may not be lower than 12 months nor exceed 36 months.

7.5. Schedule of implementation

Publication of this call for proposals is expected for the end of 2007 or January 2008.

7.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme is of €29 million.

Any remaining balance that might not be used for lack of good proposals may be reallocated for funding of other objectives of the thematic programme.

8. SUPPORT MEASURES

Applicants will be invited to foresee systematically evaluations under each project's budget. A general mid-term evaluation of the whole thematic programme is foreseen for 2009. Monitoring and follow up missions by the operational staff or external consultants of the Commission will be conducted regularly.

Such support measures must be implemented in accordance with the European Commission's standard procedures for the implementation of external actions.

ANNEX IV TO AAP

ACTION FICHE 4

NON-STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE 3

COORDINATION, COOPERATION AND NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

9. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries, within their organisations and with Community institutions.		
Total cost	EC contribution: € 4.000.000		
Method/Management mode	Project approach - Centralised Call for proposals managed by AIDCO Headquarters - <i>Centralised (direct)</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	15150	Sector	Strengthening of civil society

10. RATIONALE

This thematic programme aims at supporting initiatives proposed and/or carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities originating from the Community and partner countries in the area of development. **The programme's objective 3 is to support actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries, within their organisations and with Community institutions.**

This Action Fiche defines the implementation modalities of the Objective 3 of the thematic programme to be managed by AIDCO EC headquarters.

11. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS

11.1. Basic acts and Financing sources

Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of 27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), adopted on the 18 December 2006, and in particular its article 14.

This Action will be financed by budget lines 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of 3.4 million EURO and 0.6 million EURO. Budget line 21 03 01 will finance actions submitted by non-state actors, while budget line 21 03 02 will finance actions submitted by local authorities.

11.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities of the year, expected results

According to the multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010, in order to support the development and consolidation of dialogue between North-North stakeholder organisations and between these organisations and Community institutions, priority will be given to: (i) information networks and exchange of best practices within and among their organisations; (ii) dialogue and exchange of best practice between different types of stakeholders, including between non state actors and local authorities; (iii) interaction of such organisations or networks with the EU institutions.

These actions will cover mainly seminars, workshops, training sessions, conferences and other capacity building and networking activities targeting the above-mentioned organisations.

Geographical focus:

These actions must take place in one or more Member States of the European Union or in acceding countries.

Expected results could be among others, strengthening of Non State Actors and Local Authority networks and platforms, including their capacity to build trans-national alliances and to disseminate best practices, increasing number of multi-actor partnerships established and consolidated exchanges between different types of Non State Actors and Local Authorities networks, within their organisations and with Community institutions, strengthening of the capacity of non state actor and local authority platforms in new Member States and acceding countries to play an active role in their countries and at the EU level, including ensuring smooth integration of EU development policies.

11.3. Implementation scenario and eligibility conditions

European Community support to the above-mentioned actions will, as a rule, take form of grants.

Awarding of grants under this component of the programme will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. A single call for proposals, open both to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by AIDCO headquarters in Brussels. Considering the high number of proposals expected EuropeAid plans in principle to publish a restricted call for proposals (concept notes + complete proposals). In this call for proposals a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

Eligibility in conformity with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006: For this component of the programme all types of non profit making non-state actors and local authorities whose headquarters are in a Member State of the European Union or in an acceding country are eligible. Besides, to have access to funding under this component of the thematic programme, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country. They must have been registered for at least three years at the time of the submission of an application and they must be able to demonstrate to have regularly carried out

activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme during that period.

11.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Modalities, as well as the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

As a general rule, the maximum possible rate of EC co-financing for actions to be funded under this objective 3 of the programme is 75% of the action total eligible costs.

Grants awarded must fall between €100,000 and €1,500,000.

Exceptionally, and exclusively for actions proposed by organisations from the 12 New Member States, the rate of EC co-financing can correspond to 90% of the action total eligible costs.

The initial foreseen duration of an action may not be lower than 10 months nor exceed 36 months.

11.5. Schedule of implementation

Publication of this call for proposals is expected for the end of 2007 or January 2008.

11.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2007 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to €4 million.

Any remaining balance that might not be used due to lack of quality proposals may be reallocated for funding of other objectives of the thematic programme.

12. SUPPORT MEASURES

Applicants will be invited to foresee systematically evaluations under each project's budget. A general mid-term evaluation of the whole thematic programme is foreseen for 2009. Monitoring and follow up missions by the operational staff or external consultants of the Commission will be conducted regularly.

Such support measures must be implemented in accordance with the European Commission's standard procedures for the implementation of external actions.

ANNEX V TO AAP

ACTION FICHE 5

NON STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION / COORDINATION, COOPERATION AND NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

13. IDENTIFICATION

Title	<p><u>Objective 2</u> - Raise public awareness of development issues and promote education for development in the EU and acceding countries to anchor development policy in European societies, to mobilise greater public support for action against poverty and fairer relations between developed and developing countries, and to change attitudes to the issues and difficulties facing developing countries and their peoples.</p> <p><u>Objective 3</u> - Actions aiming at achieving more efficient cooperation, foster synergies and facilitate a structured dialogue between civil society networks and local authorities associations from the EU and acceding countries, within their organisations and with Community institutions.</p>		
Total cost	EC contribution - €1.072.323		
Method/Management mode	Project approach – <u>Direct award of 3 grants</u> - <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	15150	Sector	Strengthening of civil society

14. RATIONALE

This Action Fiche concerns the direct award of 3 grants to actions proposed by NGO platforms whose activities correspond to objectives 2 and 3 of the programme. Due to the urgency in starting their activities, the funding for the 3 actions has already been approved by the European Commission, through an individual financing decision for each one of them (cf. article 22 (1) second sub paragraph, of Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI)⁷). **For that reason, they are not included in the Financing Decision for this 2007 Annual Action Programme.** They are presented in this Action Fiche 5 just for the sake of clarity and completeness of the information provided as regards the activities funded in 2007 by this thematic programme.

14.1. Lessons learnt

The European Community has for a long time, under former NGO Co-financing BL, supported actions aiming at reinforcing the cooperation and coordination between

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OJ L 378, 27.12.2006, pp. 41-71.

NGOs from the Member States and between NGOs from the Member States and the Community Institutions.

This support has essentially taken the form of an annual operating grant to CONCORD, the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development, which comprises the national platforms of 19 Member States, 18 networks and families of humanitarian and development NGOs representing more than 1500 European NGOs.

Besides, support has also been provided under this same budget line to NGOs platforms and umbrella organisations from the EU Member States, in particular through grants to projects implemented by those NGO national platforms aiming at, during each Member-State presidency of the EU, both raising the public awareness of development issues in their respective Member States and strengthening the co-operation among national development NGOs, between the government and its national NGOs, as well as with the European Union and European NGOs in general.

This long term support to EU NGO platforms has in general been positively assessed. It is envisaged now to, under this new thematic programme, pursue such support and enlarge it to other types of European and acceding countries non-state actors and local authorities.

14.2. Complementary actions

Complementarities will be sought with other actions implemented in the framework of EU presidencies, as well as other types of support to national or European platforms or umbrella organizations. Besides, complementarities will also be sought with development education actions which take also place in Europe and very often are closely associated with the activities pursued in the 3 actions presented below.

15. DESCRIPTION

15.1. Objectives

According to its multi-annual Strategy Paper 2007-2010 adopted on the 21st June 2007, the priorities for objective 2 and 3 of the programme are the following:

Objective 2: (i) Public support for the MDG agenda, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa; (ii) Coherence for development, with a particular focus on areas of public interest where common goals such as migration, trade, security, human rights, social dimension of globalisation and decent work, environment, and HIV/AIDS in relation with development are important; (iii) Media and development.

These activities will be supported through formal and informal channels promoting education for development. Besides, special attention will be paid to awareness raising and development education in the new member states (EU 12).

Objective 3: (i) Information networks and exchange of best practices within and among their organisations; (ii) Dialogue and exchange of best practice between different types of stakeholders, including between non state actors and local authorities; (iii) Interaction of such organisations or networks with the EU institutions.

The 3 actions presented comply with these priorities. Considering that the nature and structure of the actions proposed correspond to a situation of *de facto* monopoly, within the meaning of the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Rules, those grants are awarded directly.

The actions are the following:

Action 1

Operating grant to CONCORD (European Confederation of Relief and Development Non Governmental Organisation) / Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €660,480.00 (64% of total cost of CONCORD action plan for 2007)

CONCORD action plan for 2007 has the following objectives:

1. Contribute to a responsible and consistent European development policy in the development world, and more specifically to: (i) ensure that development objectives and principles have a place on the European Union's agenda; (ii) ensure that European policy is defined in a consistent, transparent and participatory way throughout the decision-making process; (iii) directly influence a significant number of policy and institutional changes to the benefit of the most disadvantaged peoples and sections of the population in the world.
2. Promote the role of European development and humanitarian aid NGOs in defining and implementing European development and humanitarian aid policies.

The action's expected results are the following: (i) CONCORD will be a recognised interlocutor of the European Union, with values and positions which are respected by the leading development and humanitarian aid decision-makers; (ii) will contribute to the capacity building of its members to make them more effective in their advocacy and political role at national and European level; (iii) will develop dynamic working methods to enable national networks and platforms to work in synergy, to increase their respective value added and to build their capacity so that they can influence European policies from national level.

Action 2

"New dynamics of North-South Solidarity: Promoting an active involvement of Civil Society in the Euro-African dialogue - The Presidency Project of Portuguese NGOs" / Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €171,843.00 (75% of total project's cost)

This project was submitted for co-financing by the Portuguese Development NGO platform. The project has two main objectives: (i) to strengthen the cooperation and coordination of activities between Portuguese development NGOs, between those NGOs and the Portuguese Government, as well as with other European partners; (ii) to have NGO positions on development issues incorporated into the policy pursued by the Portuguese Presidency of the EU and at the same time to influence European development policy globally. In this area, the project aims at, more specifically, increasing public awareness on the interconnected and multidimensional contribution of development, migration and governance issues to the North-South relations and to foster institutional co-operation and create synergies between public actors, the North-South Centre and civil society actors in the Euro-African Dialogue, focusing on the above-mentioned subjects. It will serve as a basis of intervention of non-state actors in the formulation of future North-South strategies and feed the debate that will take place during the Europe-Africa Summit, scheduled to take place during the Portuguese Presidency.

The project's expected results are: (i) shared good practices, strengthened networking and partnership of civil society actors and other stakeholders in relation to north-south

solidarity and development issues; (ii) policy makers, media and civil society informed and sensitized on role of North-South Dialogue in poverty eradication and well-being promotion

Action 3

"Difference is our strength: Development Education and Awareness Raising in Slovenia - The presidency project of SLOGA" Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €240,000.00 (85% of total project's cost)

This project was submitted for co-financing by SLOGA, the Slovenian Development NGO platform. The project has two main objectives: (i) to establish a strong platform of NGOs with different theoretical backgrounds working on development issues and acknowledged as an important partner at EU-level and in influencing the attitudes of the selected target groups on development issues; (ii) to have NGO positions on development issues incorporated into the policy pursued by the Slovenian Presidency of the EU, to have the development dimension incorporated into Slovenia's formal and informal education and at the same time to influence European development policy globally.

The project's expected results are: strengthening of capacities of SLOGA, institutional cooperation between non-governmental and governmental stakeholders, pool of national experts on Development Education created, better understanding among Slovenian public opinion and policy makers of matters related to development.

15.2. Stakeholders

Target Beneficiaries are mainly Non State Actors from the EU and acceding countries. Through these projects cooperation with Local Authorities will certainly be also reinforced, since they are among the organisations invited to participate in many of the project's activities.

15.3. Crosscutting Issues

Crosscutting issues like democracy and human rights, gender, child protection, empowerment and support to disabled persons, age related issues, environment, and climate change are always well covered under this type of activities.

16. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

16.1. Implementation method

As mentioned above, these 3 grants are directly awarded since the 3 actions correspond to a situation of *de facto* monopoly, within the meaning of the Financial Regulation and its Implementing Rules.

16.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

These actions are implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the Commission for the implementation of external operations, in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question.

16.3. Budget

The funds available to fund these actions, under budget line 21 03 01 budget for 2007 (C5 credits), amount to a total of €1.072.323.

4.4. Performance monitoring

The actions will be monitored according to standard procedures. Project monitoring and evaluation will be based on periodic assessment of progress on delivery of specified project results and towards achievement of project objectives.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

Evaluations and audits will respect standard procedures.

4.6. Communication and visibility

Visibility of EU funded actions will be ensured according to the EU Visibility Guidelines.