

**ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2013 [DRAFT]**

- Initial version
- Revised version (no 1, date 21/12/2012) following dialogue with the Commission
- Version revised for other reasons

<b>MEMBER STATE:</b>	<b>Republic of Malta</b>
<b>FUND:</b>	<b>European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals (IF)</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:</b>	<b>Funds and Programmes Division, Office of the Prime Minister</b>
<b>YEAR COVERED:</b>	<b>2013</b>



General Programme Solidarity & Management of Migration Flows  
European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals (IF)

Co-financing rate: 75% EU Fund; 25% Beneficiary's Funds

*Sustainable Management of Migration Flows*



# List of Contents

List of Acronyms	3
1. General Rules for Selection of Projects to be financed under the Programme	5
1.1 Introduction	5
1.2 Target Groups	6
1.3 Eligible Applicants	7
1.4 Project Selection Process	7
1.5 Project Selection Criteria	7
1.6 Visibility of EC funding	9
1.7 Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate	9
2. Actions to be supported by the Programme under the Priorities chosen	10
3.1 Actions implementing priority 1	12
3.2 Actions implementing priority 2	20
3.3 Actions implementing priority 3	22
3.4 Actions implementing priority 4	26
3.5 Technical Assistance	28
4.1 Purpose of the Technical Assistance	28
4.2 Expected quantified results	29
4.3 Visibility of EC Funding	29
4. Draft Financing Plan	30

## Acronyms

<b>AA</b>	Audit Authority
<b>AP</b>	Annual Programme
<b>CA</b>	Certifying Authority
<b>CBPs</b>	Common Basic Principles for Immigrant Integration Policy
<b>CFP</b>	Call for Proposals
<b>DLLL</b>	Lifelong Learning Directorate
<b>DSS</b>	Department of Social Security
<b>EBF</b>	External Borders Fund
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>EEA</b>	European Economic Area
<b>ERF</b>	European Refugee Fund
<b>ETC</b>	Employment & Training Corporation
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUPA</b>	European Union Programme Agency
<b>IF</b>	European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals
<b>FSWS</b>	Foundation for Social and Welfare Services
<b>KNPD</b>	National Commission for Disability
<b>LLP</b>	Lifelong Learning Programme
<b>MAP</b>	Multi-Annual Programme
<b>MCS</b>	Management & Control Systems
<b>MCAST</b>	Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology
<b>MEDE</b>	Ministry for Education, and Employment
<b>MFA</b>	Ministry for Foreign Affairs
<b>MHA</b>	Ministry for Home Affairs
<b>MJDF</b>	Ministry for Justice, Social Dialogue and the Family
<b>MS</b>	Member State

<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan
<b>NCPE</b>	National Commission for the Promotion of Equality
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organisation
<b>PSC</b>	Projects Selection Committee
<b>RA</b>	Responsible Authority
<b>RF</b>	European Return Fund
<b>SP</b>	Specific Priority
<b>TA</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>TCNs</b>	Third-Country Nationals
<b>ToR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>UoM</b>	University of Malta
<b>YIA</b>	Youth in Action Programme

# 1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

## 1.1 Introduction

The general objective of the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals (IF) is to support the efforts of Member States to enable third country nationals to fulfil the conditions of residence and to facilitate their integration into the European societies, in accordance with the Common Basic Principles for immigrant integration policy in the European Union. This general objective is the basis of the IF Annual Programme for 2013.

The Annual Programme 2013 for Malta is being proposed by the Responsible Authority (RA) within the Funds and Programmes Division of the Office of the Prime Minister. The Programme has been given a provisional allocation amounting to €609,683. The actions identified in this Annual Programme emerge from a public consultation session, which was organised on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, in order to attain feedback on the actual needs that can be assisted by the Fund. To be able to reach as many participants as possible for the public consultation session, three adverts were issued on Sunday in the local newspapers, while details of the event were also made available on the Responsible Authority's webpages, on the MEUSAC's<sup>1</sup> website and newsletter (Funding 360) as well as on the Department of Information press release webpage<sup>2</sup>. In addition, all current beneficiaries were invited to attend the session, and an agenda was issued upon registration<sup>3</sup>. The session gave the floor for discussion on the needs that are present in the field of migration as well as provided information on the different actions that can be undertaken according to the Multi-Annual Programme. From feedback received from the participants of the Public Consultation session it emerged that all 4 Priorities identified in the MAP are needed for the integration of the TCNs. The actions from the said priorities which have been identified as most needed have been listed below.

Under Priority 1, Malta will be targeting various actions focusing on the implementation of the common basic principles for policy of integration of immigrants in the EU which include:

1. Improvement of procedures for preparation of admission procedure to ensure better integration;
2. Development and improvement of programmes and activities for introduction of newly arrived third-country nationals to the Maltese society and knowledge about Malta.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.funding360.eu/home?l=1>

<sup>2</sup> <http://gov.mt/en/Government/Press%20Releases/Pages/2012/August/08/pr1760.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.di-ve.com/news/public-consultation-session-organised-funds-and-programmes-division>

3. Development and improvement of programmes and activities to establish and maintain relations with specific groups of third-country nationals (for example, dependants of persons subject to admission procedure, children, women, elderly people, disabled or illiterate persons).
4. Development and improvement of the programmes and activities to provide consultations and information to third-country nationals in creating more favourable opportunities for them to use public and private services.

Priority 2 focuses on the elaboration of indicators and methodologies of evaluation for appraisal of progress, adjustment of policies and measures and facilitation of coordination of comparative learning:

5. Creation and implementation of the systems dedicated to collect and analyze information on the needs of various categories of third-country nationals

Priority 3 will tackle actions meant to build capacities within policy, coordinate and build intercultural knowledge on various levels and governmental departments:

6. Training on the intercultural competence, capacity strengthening and diversity management for policy makers, servants and other persons working in the areas pertinent to the objectives of the IF;
7. Creation and improvement of the systems for cooperation, co-ordination and maintenance of relations of competent institutions and other interested parties.

Priority 4 will promote the exchange of experience, verified procedures and information in the field of integration among Member States:

8. To support cooperation, exchange of experience and good practice among involved Member States on all levels of the integration process

## 1.2 Target Groups

As per Article 1 of Council Decision 435/2007/EC, the target groups of the actions are Third-country nationals who are on the territory of a third country and who are complying with specific pre-departure measures and/or conditions set out in national law, including those relating to the ability to integrate in the society of this Member State fall under the scope of this Decision. Third-country nationals who have applied for asylum in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken, or enjoy refugee or subsidiary protection status, or qualify as refugees or are eligible for subsidiary protection in

accordance with Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third-country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted (1), shall be excluded from the scope of this Decision.

Third-country national means any person who is not a citizen of the Union within the meaning of Article 17(1) of the Treaty.

## **1.2 Eligible Applicants**

Applications are open to all organisations, including public entities including government departments, local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; non-governmental organisations, voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

## **1.4 Project Selection Process**

The Responsible Authority (RA) shall steer the project selection process. A Project Selection Committee (PSC) shall be set up to support the RA in this task. The PSC shall be chaired by a member of the RA and shall include also external (to RA) experts. The main function of the PSC shall be the evaluation of project proposals. The PSC shall, in the first instance, confirm the eligibility of the proposals received (according to the eligibility criteria) and then proceed to evaluate the eligible proposals according the selection criteria and rank the projects according to the marks obtained. Projects must obtain at least 50% of the marks in order to be considered for funding. The RA shall then proceed to sign Grant Agreements with the selected applicants. In cases where the proposals exceed the budget available, the RA shall co-finance the highest ranking projects with the rest remaining on a reserve list which may be activated should funding become available.

There will be no projects implemented by the RA using the executing method under this Programme<sup>4</sup>. As outlined in the Manual of Procedures<sup>5</sup> as well as in the Description of the Management and Control System<sup>6</sup>, the RA shall issue an open call for proposals. Where possible the RA shall issue a pre-announcement before the call in order to allow sufficient time for stakeholders to mobilise resources. Both the pre-announcement as well as the call itself shall be published through a Press Release, on the media as well as on the RA's website. The open call shall be accompanied with Guidance Notes and an application form and the RA shall also hold information sessions for potential applicants. The applications received shall be assessed in line with the relevant criteria.

## **1.5 Project Selection Criteria**

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<sup>4</sup> Article 7 of Commission Decision 2008/22/EC (ERF)

<sup>5</sup> Section 4.2 of the Manual of Procedures

<sup>6</sup> Section 3.5 of the Description of the Management and Control Systems

Projects that meet the eligibility criteria shall proceed to the selection/award phase and will be assessed and ranked on the basis of predefined selection/award criteria listed below. Proposals must obtain at least 50% of the total available points in order to qualify for funding. Funding will be awarded to proposals with the highest scores in order of merit to the extent of available budget. Projects that obtain the pass-mark but for which there is no budget available, will be placed on a reserve list which will be activated should additional budget become available throughout the life-time of the Annual Programme.

As per Article 13 (5) of the legal basis establishing the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals (435/2007/EC), the selection of projects under this Annual Programme will address the minimum criteria namely: (a) the situation of the country and its requirements. In this regard, the PSC will be assessing the relevance and justification of the proposed action; (b) the cost-effectiveness of the expenditure. In this regard, the PSC will be assessing the added value of the project and whether the proposed expenditure in relation to the proposed activities is justified and addresses the objectives proposed; (c) the experience, expertise, reliability and financial contribution of both the organisation applying for funding and where applicable that of the partner organisation. In this regard, the PSC will be evaluating the readiness of the potential beneficiary, including whether the actors involved are properly trained and have the necessary knowledge on the objectives of the fund to allow an adequate implementation of the proposed project as well as the quality of the proposed actions; (d) the extent to which the project complements other actions funded by the general budget of the European Union or as part of national programmes. In this regard the PSC will be assessing the complementarity of the projects with other actions including national EU funded or other resources.

Indicative Timeframe	Tasks	Proposed Timescales/ Completion dates
<b>Stage 1: Programme Launch and Application Process</b>	Call for applications	Q2 2013*
	Information Sessions & Information Campaigns	Q2 2013
	Deadline for applications	Q2 2013
	Appraisal of applications	Q2 2013
	Approval of projects by RA	Q3 2013
	Grant Agreements signed	Q3 2013
<b>Stage 2: Project Implementation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of activities</li> <li>• Monitoring by RA</li> <li>• Submission of request for payment forms</li> <li>• Management verifications including on the spot checks</li> <li>• Submission of interim/progress reports</li> </ul>	Q3 2013 till end Q2 2015



<b>Stage 3: Project Completion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final reporting on all implementation and financial aspects of the project</li> <li>• Submission of final report to RA</li> </ul>	Q3 2015
<b>End of Eligibility period for selected projects</b>		30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2015

*\*This is a proposed timeframe. The open call for project proposals is subject to formal approval of the Annual Programme 2013 by the European Commission.*

### **1.6 Visibility of EC funding**

In accordance with Article 35 of Commission Decision 2008/457/EC, all projects will ensure the visibility of EU funding in project documentation and presentations. The RA shall include the relevant obligations in the Grant Agreements and shall provide advice and guidance as necessary, as well as supervise visibility during its monitoring and management verification activities. Guidelines on the obligatory visibility requirements are already provided for in both the Manual of Procedures as well as in the Visual Identity Guidelines. Both documents will be disseminated amongst beneficiaries upon approval of their project proposals and can already be easily downloaded from the RA's webpage<sup>7</sup>.

As defined in Article 34 of Commission Decision 2008/457/EC, the RA shall ensure that all projects receiving over €100,000 shall display a permanent plaque detailing the name of the project and the pertinent Annual Programme. Appropriate provisions with regard to the visibility of the EU logo will be included in the Grant Agreements

### **1.7 Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

In this regard, provision is made to consult with the Inter-Ministerial Co-Ordination Committee on EU Human Capital Investment Funding Programmes

The RA shall ensure that there is no double funding and that co-financed actions complement actions undertaken within the national migration and integration policy measures as well as other relevant actions co-financed by the other EC instruments.

The RA is common for the four Funds under the General Programme Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows and this ensures complementarity from a strategic perspective. Moreover, the RA forms part of the Permanent Secretariat for EU funds, and therefore complementarity with all other EU funds is enhanced.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.ppcd.gov.mt/publicity>

## 2. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE PRIORITIES CHOSEN

### State of play on the implementation of key strategic objectives at national level

On a national level, Malta has continued to implement the strategic objectives the Commission envisaged for 2012 – 2013.

The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) has undertaken a number of research and training projects<sup>8</sup> related to equality. In this regard NCPE has compiled a National Action Plan Against Racism and Xenophobia (NAPARX) and also reviewed the National Minimum Curriculum with the aim of mainstreaming equality by safeguarding equal treatment and non-discrimination in the sphere of education. Furthermore, NCPE is currently also implementing the project *I'm Not Racist, But ...* which is co-funded by EU PROGRESS funds and implemented by the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) Malta during 2012. It has also carried out through a project VS/2010/0569 – *Think Equal*, co-financed by the EU PROGRESS fund, a study to measure the perception, level of awareness and acceptance of equality and diversity, as well as the occurrence of discrimination. This study addressed two specific groups, namely youths and public employees. Through another project co-financed by the EU PROGRESS fund VS/2009/0405 – *Strengthening Equality beyond Legislation*, NCPE conducted another research to identify the media preferred by minorities in Malta, focusing on the African minority. As a result of this study, NCPE carried out a short-term campaign with the aim of disseminating information on these issues through a short series of training/information sessions.

On the level of social security policies, the Department of Social Security (DSS) regards TCNs as eligible to qualify for contributory benefit if they satisfy the statutory conditions for the benefits for which they apply. The Employment & Training Corporation (ETC)<sup>9</sup> provides equal access to services provided through the ETC's job centres, including information on the availability of jobs with the private sector. Information on living and working conditions in Malta is also available on the website of The Employment and Training Corporation (ETC).

This research provided data upon which policies may be reviewed or established as well as data on which racial equality mainstreaming may be undertaken.

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<sup>8</sup> A number of these projects have been funded by PROGRESS

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.etc.gov.mt/Index.aspx>

The Foundation for Social Welfare Services (FSWS) which is made up of three agencies (Appogg, Sedqa and Sapport) offers also a number of services to TCNs. Agenzija APPOGG provides support services to families and children.

Agenzija-SEDQA<sup>10</sup> interventions with TCNs (primarily irregular immigrants) mainly consist in providing counselling and medical assistance in cases assessed with a substance abuse problem (mainly alcohol). Agenzija SAPPOR provides support for persons with disability.

### **3.1 Actions Implementing Priority 1**

*The implementation of the events proposed for the purpose of introduction of 'Common basic principles for policy of integration of immigrants in the EU' in practice.*

*Action 1: Improvement of procedures for preparation of admission procedure to ensure better integration process  
(Action 1 of the Multi Annual Programme)*

#### *a. Purpose and scope of the actions*

The purpose of this action is to improve the procedures for preparation and implementation of the admission procedure for newly arrived TCNs. The admission procedure is prepared in consultation and cooperation with interested institutions and experts and ensures better conditions for TCNs integration. Through consultation with experts from different areas, it could be possible to clearly define the needs of newly arrived TCNs and subsequently streamline admission procedures.

This action will aim to identify gaps in the current procedure and address the need for stronger coordination between the authorities acting as front liners with TCNs and NGO's working with TCNs. The level of coordination between various Ministries will be improved to ensure that a harmonized policy across different Ministries is being achieved. Such policy should re-assess the processes, starting from customs to the right to education and medical support. It is felt that presently support and services are being given in a fragmented manner and on a case by case situation. The results will eventually be used to provide TCNs with more information on the admission procedure before they actually come to Malta. This action will also provide opportunities for the dissemination of information to TCNs by means of various media.

#### *b. Expected grant recipients*

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

#### *c. Where appropriate justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body*

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

#### *d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used*

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- At least 1 procedure/information dissemination improvement.

**e. Visibility of EC funding**

Refer to section 1.6 above.

**f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

In addition to section 1.7 above similar actions and projects that are being or were implemented over the previous years, include:

- IF 11/16 - Adaptation Programme for Third Country National Nurses to facilitate successful integration, effective communication and ensure high quality care to patients.
- IF 11/14 – Living and working in Malta: Training for TCN integration

**g. Financial Information**

The action requires a total financing amounting to €120,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €90,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €30,000.

***Action 2: Development and improvement of programmes and activities for introduction of newly arrived third-country nationals to the Maltese society and knowledge about Malta***

***(Action 2 of the Multi Annual programme)***

***a. Purpose and scope of the actions***

Action 2 aims at the implementation of common basic principle 4 (basic knowledge of the language, the history and the institutions of the host society is essential to integration). Projects under this objective are consistent with the choice to direct the appropriation of resources under the IF primarily to the integration of newcomers. Actions within this objective focus primarily on the target groups "newcomers" and 'old comers'. The first group includes foreigners- meaning persons without nationality of one EU country- between the age categories 18 and 65 who entered Malta after 1 January 2007 on the basis of non-temporary stay or people who were obliged to follow civic introduction courses. The second group includes immigrants in the same age category who lived in Malta before 1 January 2007 but not during the 8 years of their school age and who do not hold any diploma from which it can be made clear that the person has knowledge of the Maltese language and the Maltese society at a certain level. Both of these groups fall under the scope of "newcomers" set out by the IF<sup>11</sup>.

The purpose of projects under this action is to contribute to the development and use of participation as an instrument of integration. Participation is expected to increase the chance of success for an integration examination by integrated TCNs and to improve the results of integration programmes in terms of factual knowledge of Malta and the Maltese society. This instrument also creates a bridge between integration and (early) active participation of immigrants in society, and the host country is actively involved in the integration process of newcomers. This action will address specific priority 1.

***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***

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<sup>11</sup> Persons having the status of a refugee, having a residence permit on other grounds of international protection or have sought asylum on which no definitive decision has been taken yet, fall outside the target group of these actions.

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- Maximum of 100 persons assisted or participating.

***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above.

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

In addition to section 1.7 above similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, include:

- IF 11/07 - Upskilling of a specific cohort of teachers re foreign-language teaching of Third Country Nationals
- IF 11/11 - Community Integration through Non-Formal Education
- IF 11/01 – Ghinni Nidhol

***g. Financial Information***

The action requires a total financing amounting to €80,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €60,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €20,000.

***Action 3: Development and improvement of programmes and activities to establish and maintain relations with specific groups of third-country nationals (for example, dependants of persons subject to admission procedure, children, women, elderly people, disabled or illiterate persons).***

***(Action 4 of the Multi Annual Programme)***

***a. Purpose and scope of the action***

The group of TCNs in Malta is not homogeneous. This action aims to create the programmes and activities on integration that need to be devised according to specific needs. Studies about the composition of TCNs are required to adapt activities to specific groups within TCNs. The specific needs of particular minority groups within TCNs eg. women, youth, children, elderly people, illiterate persons and disabled people should be mainstreamed throughout policy formulation. This action fits the specific priority 2 (SP2) *Specific Target Groups* specified in the Strategic Guidelines

***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding projects) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- Maximum of 50 persons assisted or participating.

***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above.

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

Refer to section 1.7 above

***g. Financial Information***



The action requires a total financing amounting to €60,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €45,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €15,000.

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***Action 4: Development and Improvement of the programmes and activities to provide consultations and information to third-country nationals in creating more favourable opportunities for them to use public and private services.  
(Action 7 of the Multi Annual Programme)***

***a. Purpose and scope of the action***

The purpose of this action is to improve the programmes and activities aimed at providing information to TCNs in relation to the public services on offer such as those regarding job seeking and education systems, as well as the private services which can be used to facilitate their integration in Malta. Therefore this action seeks to ensure that the TCNs are equipped with the necessary information in order to be able to carry out all the administrative procedures that are needed in order to be able to settle in Malta. This Action complements the action provided under Action 1 where the admission procedures are enhanced so as to facilitate the TCNs' settlement in Malta. In addition to clear delivery of information accessible to the TCNs on the services on offer, an enhancement of the methods of dissemination of information of the service providers will also contribute to the creation of a more favourable environment to the TCNs. Focus will also be given to equal opportunities and non-discrimination in the area of service provision in order to equip the TCNs with a greater understanding of their rights and duties in different scenarios.

***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- Maximum of 100 persons assisted or participating.

***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above.

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

Refer to section 1.7 above

**g. Financial Information**

The action requires a total financing amounting to €200,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €150,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €50,000.

### 3.2 Actions Implementing Priority 2

**Elaboration of indicators and methodologies of evaluation for appraisal of progress, adjustment of policies and measures and facilitation of coordination of comparative learning**

***Action 5: Creation and Implementation of the systems dedicated to collect and analyze information on the needs of various categories of third-country nationals***

***(Action 11 of the Multi Annual Programme)***

#### ***a. Purpose and scope of the action***

The improvement of the integration process is necessary in order to take into account the needs of various categories of TCNs in the area of integration, especially with respect to vulnerable persons such as young children, the elderly people, disabled or illiterate people needs. Research could be carried out in migrant communities with the aim to find out the best way to satisfy the needs of these people as well as to create and improve various indicators and evaluation methodologies dedicated to evaluate the introductory programmes and integration policy in general also the appropriateness and adaptability to specific groups of third-country nationals and similar. This action shall improve awareness on the needs of TCNs in the area of integration, strengths and weaknesses of integration policy as well as their conformity to specific needs of TCN groups. The growing presence of TCNs, who are in some small localities changing the demographic situation, including educational systems and religious/cultural needs, is taken into consideration.

#### ***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

#### ***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

#### ***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- Maximum of 50 Third Country Nationals involved in research.

#### ***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above.

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

Refer to Section 1.7 above

***g. Financial Information***

The action requires a total financing amounting to €72,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €54,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €18,000.

### **3.3 Actions Implementing Priority 3**

*Building capacities within policy, coordination and building intercultural knowledge on various levels and governmental departments*

*Action 6: Training on the intercultural competence, capacity strengthening and diversity management for policy makers, servants and other persons working in the areas pertinent to the objectives of the IF.*

*(Action 12 of the Multi Annual Programme)*

#### *a. Purpose and scope of the action*

Intercultural training is very important for policy makers and other interested parties associated with the objectives of the Integration Fund and activities carried out. These training courses are especially important for the staff working in the sectors of public services (SP5) who provide direct consultation or in any other way provide services to third-country nationals, for example, workers in the institutions or services responsible for the admission policy, recognition of qualification of third-country nationals, information supply, education and counselling. While preparing the intercultural, inter-religious and diversity management training it is important to emphasise the needs of specific groups of third country nationals, i.e. women, youth and children, elderly people, disabled or illiterate persons. This action will improve knowledge of policy makers and other interested persons on the diversity management and intercultural competence, enhance their capacities to manage the functions they are delegated and be better versed in the formulation and implementation of integration policies and measures.

#### *b. Expected grant recipients*

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

#### *c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

#### *d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used*

- At least 2 projects and measures undertaken;
- At least 50 trainees.
  
- Improved Knowledge of policy makers and other interested persons on diversity management and intercultural competence;

- Improved knowledge of policy makers and other interested parties on specific needs of particular groups of third-country nationals;
- Enhanced capacities of policy makers and other interested parties to manage the functions they are delegated;
- Improved quality of integration policy measures;
- Diminishing of discrimination phenomena;
- Improved understanding that integration is a two way process.

***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

In addition to Section 1.7 above similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, include:

- IF 11/05 – Training for Staff Members of the Department for Citizenship and expatriate affairs on integration and cultural aspects of third country nationals and printing of leaflets for the benefit of TCNs residing in Malta.
- IF 11/13 – Training for ETC frontliners on integration and cultural awareness of third country nationals.

***g. Financial Information***

The action requires a total financing amounting to €80,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €60,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €20,000.

***Action 7: Creation and Improvement of the systems for cooperation, co-ordination and maintenance of relations of competent institutions and other interested parties  
(Action 13 of the Multi Annual Programme)***

***a. Purpose and scope of the action***

To improve the effectiveness of decision making in the area of integration policy (including adoption procedures and measures to follow the developments of such policy) it is necessary to promote the cooperation of competent institutions, NGOs and other interested parties active in the field of integration and TCNs. Hence the creation of effective environments wherein structured dialogue between these actors could take place is imperative for the creation of holistic policies aimed at the integration of third country nationals. Therefore the setting up of exchange and consultation platforms and as well as networking structures could contribute towards this objective. By means of the said platforms better admission policy could be set up which could facilitate the recognition of qualification of third-country nationals while improving the quality of information provision, education and counselling. Participation from various interested parties active in the field could also give a valid contribution to the discussions and initiatives taking place.

In addition to the setting up of these structures it is also important to monitor and evaluate the coordination of such initiatives as well as monitor and evaluate the coordination of government institutions and mechanisms across the different government levels /sectors that affect policy development and implementation. Reports on the monitoring of the said structures could help identify the improvements that would need to take place.

***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions, employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***



- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- At least 2 organisations involved.

***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

Refer to Section 1.7 above.

***g. Financial Information***

The action requires a total financing amounting to €60,000 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €45,000 and a national financing of 25%, that is €15,000.

#### **Actions Implementing Priority 4**

##### ***Exchange of experience, verified procedures and information in the field of integration among member states***

##### ***Action 8: Seminars, workshops & conferences to share best practices on an international platform (Action 14 of the Multi Annual Programmes)***

###### ***a. Purpose and scope of the action***

The scope of this action is to support cooperation, exchange of best practices amongst Member States in the area of migration and integration. This action may include the creation of networks between Member States in order to exchange the experience, verified procedures and information with regards to integration policies and procedures. It can also support pilot projects to enhance the accessibility of migrants with regards to goods and services and all aspects of public life. As well trigger comparative research between Member States focusing on the impact of integration on minority groups within TCNs

Insofar this action reflects SP 5 *Involvement of the host society in the integration process*

###### ***b. Expected grant recipients***

Applications are open to public entities including local councils, education institutions; employment institutions and research organisations; social partners; voluntary organisations; private organisations and international organisations.

###### ***c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body***

N/A. This action will be subject to an open call for proposals.

###### ***d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used***

- At least 1 project and measure undertaken;
- Maximum of 50 participants.
- More exchange of information and best practices between participating countries.
- More exchange of information in the research on vulnerable groups within the TCN community between participating countries.

###### ***e. Visibility of EC funding***

Refer to Section 1.6 above

***f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate***

In addition to Section 1.7 above similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, include:

- IF11/15 – Intercultural Malta towards the achievement of integration in Malta to the intercultural cities approach.
- IF 11/08 – Pan-European Conference: Work a tool for inclusion or a reason for exclusion.

***g. Financial Information***

The action requires a total financing amounting to €69,332 with a community co-financing of 75% of the total contribution, that is €51,999 and a national financing of 25%, that is €17,333.

## 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (Action 9)

### 4.1 Purpose of the Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance (where applicable) will be shared between the four Funds as per Article 5 of Annex II of the Implementing Rules:

Technical Assistance (TA) is aimed at enhancing the implementation of the General Programme by providing the Responsible Authority, the Treasury Department, the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority with appropriate support. In the course of the activities undertaken by the RA it has become clear that due to the increased amount of projects being implemented under the General Programme, there is a need to enhance capacity, particularly in the RA. As of October 2012, the RA had 3 full time EU Fund Officers, 1 full time Project Manager (assigned to projects), 1 full time Project Manager (assigned to financial control answerable directly to the Head of the Responsible Authority) and 1 full time EU Fund Manager (assigned to projects). A Senior Manager coordinates the whole team. It is clear that since the RA carries out 100% of the checks and processes in relation to all its projects which currently amount to 55<sup>12</sup>, while providing also direct payments on expenditure made, there is a need to enhance the financial control function as well as the project monitoring function to double check the checks made by the said Officers and Managers while providing additional support to them. In addition, it is foreseen that an IT system will be put in place in order to have all payments processed through this database system. In this regard, the RA has issued relevant calls and will be engaging the said additional personnel. The RA will also be undertaking relevant training actions which help in capitalising on the fact that within the Permanent Secretariat there are persons with experience in certain issues, including reporting, the management of an electronic system and management verifications.

Technical Assistance will be considered as one entire project consisting of small operations. This project will be managed by the Responsible Authority. The procedures for applying for technical assistance are outlined in the Manual of Procedures. The RA will also ensure adequate separation of function within the RA in this regard. The implementation of the Technical Assistance project will comply with the relevant rules and procedures, including public procurement regulations.

The amount of €48,322 has been earmarked to be used as Technical Assistance and accordingly the following activities are envisaged to be implemented:

- a) expenditure relating to the preparation, selection, appraisal, management and monitoring of actions;
- b) expenditure relating to audits and on-the-spot checks of actions or projects;
- c) expenditure relating to evaluations of actions or projects;
- d) expenditure relating to information, dissemination and transparency in relation to actions;

<sup>12</sup> The Amount refers to all Four Funds and includes projects awarded under the 2010 AP and 2011 AP.

- e) expenditure on the acquisition, installation and maintenance of computerised systems for the management, monitoring and evaluation of the Funds;
- f) expenditure on meetings of monitoring committees and sub-committees relating to the implementation of actions. This expenditure may also include the costs of experts and other participants in these committees, including third-country participants, where their presence is essential to the effective implementation of actions;
- g) expenditure for the reinforcement of the administrative capacity for the implementation of the Fund.

#### **4.2 Expected quantified results**

The main result of the use of Technical Assistance is the successful implementation of the 2013 Annual Programmes. Expected results, depending on the actual activities carried out, will be as follows:

- Increase in capacity;
- Successful implementation of the General Programme;
- Effective announcement of Open Calls (in newspapers, websites, etc);
- The organisation of at least 6 bilateral monitoring meetings;
- The organization of at least one conference to be organized per year for beneficiaries and stakeholders;
- The setting up of an Annual Event aimed at the dissemination of information to the general public as per Art. 33 of the Commission Decision 2008/457;
- Gathering of Information in relation to the 2014 – 2020 Programmes.

#### **4.3 Visibility of EC Funding**

The EU logo will be applied to all materials prepared (instruction documents, application forms, advertising materials, etc) and also equipment which is purchased and/or leased (e.g. computers). When required, information activities (e.g. for launching of call, etc) will be carried out and media articles will be published in order to publicise any relevant development.

The RA also intends to publicise the results of the Annual Programme using different media.

5. Draft Financial Plan

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan									
Table 1 - Overview table									
Member State: Republic of Malta									
Annual programme concerned: Annual Programme 2013									
Fund: European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals									
(all figures in euro)	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public or Private Allocation (b)	TOTAL (d= a+b)	% EC (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)		
Action 1	1		90,000	30,000	120,000	75.00%	15.20%		
Action 2	1		60,000	20,000	80,000	75.00%	10.13%		
Action 3	1		45,000	15,000	60,000	75.00%	7.60%		
Action 4	1		150,000	50,000	200,000	75.00%	25.33%		
Action 5	2		54,000	18,000	72,000	75.00%	9.12%		
Action 6	3		60,000	20,000	80,000	75.00%	10.13%		
Action 7	3		45,000	15,000	60,000	75.00%	7.60%		
Action 8	4		51,999	17,333	69,332	75.00%	8.78%		
Technical assistance			48,322		48,322	100.00%	6.12%		
Other operations (2)					0		0.00%		
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>604,321</b>	<b>185,333</b>	<b>789,654</b>	<b>76.68%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		

(1) if appropriate  
(2) if appropriate

Director General Funds and Programmes Division  
Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. Raphael Seemir

Director General Funds & Programmes  
Office of the Prime Minister

8/2/2013

Date

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