

Annex 5: Action Fiche for Egypt

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Anna Lindh Foundation III for Inter-Cultural Dialogue (CRIS number 23023)		
Total cost	EU contribution: EUR 7 million EU Member States contributions: EUR 6 million		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Project approach – centralised Direct Award Grant Contract		
DAC-code	16061	Sector	Culture

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Sector context

The Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) has played a fundamental role since 2005 in forming a bridge between the Euro-Mediterranean region by promoting understanding and intercultural dialogue between cultures, religions and people. The Regional Indicative Programme 2011-2013 recognizes that in order for this foundation to continue benefitting the Mediterranean, further EU support should be provided to enhance mutual knowledge, mutual understanding and dialogue while taking into account the following main principles. The activities of the ALF are a joint endeavour combining the efforts of its 43 national networks and its Secretariat/Headquarters in Alexandria.

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, formerly known as the Barcelona Process, was re-launched at the Paris Summit in 2008 as the Union for the Mediterranean. The Paris Summit conveyed the importance of this Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in regards to the recognition it plays in establishing peace, security and shared prosperity in the Mediterranean. In addition to this announcement, the Paris Summit also communicated that: the ALF would contribute to the cultural dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean, the ALF has to take into account the dialogue between cultures and ensure complementarities and synergies with the activities of other programmes in this field of action.

2.2. Lessons learnt

After acquiring 5 years of experience in intercultural dialogue, the next third phase of the ALF must build upon the achievements of the two previous phases, in particular its credibility and the institutional legitimacy acquired through the work accomplished with all its stakeholders including its Networks. Such third phase will also be based on the major conclusions drawn during the Barcelona Forum (March 2010) which recognizes the need of the Foundation as a bridge between civil society and institutions and the findings of the ALF Report launched in 2010 on Intercultural Trends .

On the basis of the assessments carried out so far and the relevant role played by the Networks, the new phase should strengthen and improve the Networks' roles and activities. More than 3,000 civil society organizations have joined the Networks as partners thus representing the largest network of organizations in the region devoted to intercultural dialogue. The new challenge at this stage is to exercise a stronger monitor on the role played by the Heads of the Networks and to develop a coherent program for all of them, which could ensure a real impact on national civil societies. The activities of the new phase therefore will include actions to improve the quality of the networking dimension.

The Barcelona Forum acknowledged the strategic fields of action identified in 2008 as appropriate areas where the Foundation's programme must develop. The priority areas were therefore also reiterated for the third phase: Culture and Creativity, Education and Intercultural Learning, Cities and Spaces of Citizenship, Media and Public Opinion.

On the basis of the lesson learnt (3 calls for proposals launched with a total amount of EUR 2.8 million, 664 projects received and 152 projects supported) the call for proposals should be improved and consolidated. The Call for Proposals represent the main instrument in which to develop the intercultural dialogue at different social levels, targeting youth and students, teachers, children and those more in need of education in diversity, tolerance and intercultural dialogue. The new generation of grants will be built favouring exchanges and co-operation activities among civil society organizations (people) from Europe and the Southern and eastern Mediterranean countries.

Due to its nature, the ALF has a long term mandate, with a limited 3 years Grant Contract. As recommended in the first Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) report, the new phase of the ALF is built on the need for a clearer structure of realistic and feasible objectives, activities and results, reflecting the Description of Actions and its logical framework in the designed Annual Work Plans.

2.3. Complementary actions

At a regional level, the Anna Lindh Foundation will develop its strategy within the context of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the Union for the Mediterranean (Paris, July 2008). It will continue to collaborate with relevant Euro-Med programmes as well as those carried out by other regional or international institutions.

In the field of Media, ALF will continue to promote complementary actions developed during the EuroMed Media Task Force and the UN Alliance of Civilisations.

The Euro Med Youth IV Programme and the Youth in Action Programme, both, promote mobility, youth exchanges, informal learning, mutual understanding, training and youth networking projects and support of youth organisations from both the EU and Mediterranean Partner Countries which all enhance Euro-Mediterranean co-operation in the youth field.

Concerning audiovisual activities, complementary actions will be sought with the Euro Med Audiovisual III Programme, which will contribute to the strengthening

and further development of the Mediterranean audiovisual sector. Synergy with the Euro Med IV Heritage Programme will also be ensured, focusing on the appropriation of cultural heritage by local populations, access to knowledge, and institutional and legislative strengthening.

Some of the ALF's main actions, for instance, the Forum and the Report are suitable fields for the already established partnership strengthening with UNESCO, the Alliance of Civilisations, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States, the Islamic Education, Science, Cultural Organization (ISECO), the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the EuroMed Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA), the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators (COPEAM) and the Euro-Mediterranean Assembly of Local and Regional Authorities (EMRLA).

2.4. Donor coordination

Financial contributions to the Anna Lindh Foundation's budget come from the European Union and the 43 Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Countries that constitute the Foundation's Board of governors. The Board of governors in the presence of the EU representative(s) approves the Programme and its provisional budget thus representing the best setting to ensure EU donor coordination.

With a view to ensure stronger coordination, the principle of voluntary Member State contributions should become a formal commitment, in order to create a budget based on concrete pledges before the starting of the triennial Phase. The Member States could contribute through an extra-budgetary project, such as the Children Literature Programme funded by Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA) in the last two Phases.

Broader donor community coordination is ensured with the Alliance of Civilisations (within the United Nations system), whose aim is to promote dialogue through its representatives and its universal and regional bodies.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The overall objective of the ALF is to promote knowledge, mutual respect and intercultural dialogue between the peoples of the Euro-Mediterranean.

In this third phase, the ALF aims to consolidate the achievements reached so far and transform them into far-reaching and permanent actions, adapting its programme to the new realities and demands that intercultural dialogue addresses in the Region.

The specific objectives are:

- (1) To improve mutual perceptions and promote mutual understanding, generating positive changes in intercultural relations and policies in the Mediterranean region. This specific objective will be achieved through avoiding the manipulation of cultural and religious identities; the rebuilding of trust and bridges between societies in a region affected by conflicts,

principally of political nature and the promotion of intercultural practices aimed at sustainable development.

- (2) To promote the intercultural dialogue at grass roots level of the society through the implementation of civil society's initiatives. The Foundation will create space for exchange and interaction between Euro-Mediterranean individuals and will act as a communication channel from the grassroots level to the decision makers. In order to take advantage of this position and create the conditions for fruitful dialogue, the Foundation will facilitate mechanisms for funding projects proposed by the civil society. These mechanisms contribute to the unique character of the ALF as a meeting point for civil societies from both sides of the Mediterranean.
- (3) To reinforce ALF networks of civil society and capacity building: best practices of action and management will be built as model for all Networks. The role of the Networks in the development of the programme and in the setting up action tools for the Foundation is crucial. The Networks should play the role of antenna of the ALF within the 43 Member Countries and ensure that the initiatives, actions, interventions of their members (civil society organizations belonging to the national network) converge towards common objectives.

3.2. Expected results and main activities

The new operational phase will develop its major programs, projects and actions in the areas of Culture and Creativity, Education and Intercultural Learning, Cities and Spaces of Citizenship, Media and Public Opinion which were confirmed as the areas where a culture of dialogue can eventually materialize at the Forum in Barcelona.

The activities' format - Call for proposals, Network Support Development Scheme, Anna Lindh Forum, Report on Intercultural Trends, Mobility Funds and Annual Initiatives - were identified in the Strategic paper presented and endorsed by the Board of Governors in October 2010.

Objective 1: To improve mutual perceptions and promote mutual understanding

The result will include:

- Comparative analyses carried out of the evolution of perceptions, values and behaviours in the region;
- A report on Intercultural Dialogue edited presented and disseminated among ALF members.

The main indicators will include: the number of target opinions polled (Indicator), number of analyses launched; number of resources edited; number of books disseminated in schools and in libraries, press releases; website visitors, number of events carried out on Intercultural dialogue.

The activities include:

- Carrying out an opinion poll compiling data and analyses regarding mutual perceptions in a sample of countries of the euro Mediterranean region;
- Preparation and editing of the report in intercultural trends and related activities of debate and dissemination in a sample of countries;
- Editing of resources and tools for formal and informal intercultural learning;
- Organization of Seminars and education training in intercultural dialogue; website communication tools; Euromed Journalist Award, Translation Program: acting as observatory of translation in the region.

Objective 2: To promote the intercultural dialogue at grass roots level of the society through the implementation of civil society's initiatives

The results will include:

- Best practices and projects carried out by civil society organizations in the North and the South promoted and supported;
- Projects involving more vulnerable beneficiaries (children, women, migrants) and dialogue within these communities increased;
- Presence of institutional and local level in the programme of ALF assured;
- Exchange and debate for people with different origins, traditions and beliefs addressed and promoted, in particularly with the youth;
- Youth participation regarding intercultural dialogue increased.

The indicators include: the number of civil society projects carried out by north-south institutions on intercultural dialogue, number of opinion makers, local administrations and organization mobilized through activities; number of children, youth, families and educational stakeholders benefited from the ALF's actions.

The activities include:

- Call for project grants of different nature, long term, short term and thematic will be launched ensuring adequate participation from North and South partner countries;
- Organization of the Anna Lindh Forum;

Objective 3: To reinforce ALF networks of civil society and capacity building:

The results of this objective include:

- National dimension of the Foundation activity strengthened;
- Activities in intercultural dialogue increased at a national level;
- Involvement of the national networks in the activities of the ALF strengthened;

- Networks presence in the design and implementation of the ALF activities increased.

Indicators: number of national activities and national members records, services provided to the networks, number of networks involved in the ALF program; Head of Network meetings

The activities include:

- Common actions of the networks;
- Tools to improve the quality and social incidence of national network: trainings;
- Call for network participation in the activities promoted by the Foundation;
- Services to make the Networks more effective enabling them to better perform, operate and generate projects such as contact making meetings, sharing project ideas, matching partnerships, support fundraising, developing capacity building, creating specific networks around joint policies such as academic co-operation or education.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

The main assumption underlying this intervention is that the ALF has to be recognised as a tool to improve mutual perceptions and better understanding among people of different origins, cultures and beliefs and to create spaces of exchange and dialogue based on mutual respect and universal values in the forty-three countries of the Union for the Mediterranean. In addition, it worth mentioning that the ALF is linked to the EuroMed institutional challenge and that the implementation of its strategy has to take into account the evolution of the Union for the Mediterranean process.

The main risks and possible constrains is represented by the fact that the global budget of the Foundation is based upon the contributions of the European Union and the 43 Euro-Med governments. Any delay in the delivery of EuroMed government contributions or in the fulfilment of the corresponding commitments might lead to: difficult implementation of the planned activities or even to its termination; and it may endanger the Foundation's image and co-operation with its counterparts. The ALF which works on the basis of a three year work plan will revise and adapt its plan of activities in the case of a substantial budget reduction due to any missing contribution by a member state.

3.4. Crosscutting Issues

The Project integrates culture of peace, good governance, citizens participation and human rights in its activities, which are both at the basis of respect and preservation of cultural diversity. Given the importance of women empowerment policies in the region, the Foundation will also encourage and support projects addressing women affairs and ensure that gender equality is reflected among the activities' participants. The Foundation will target both women working at the policy making level, in order to favour regional exchanges and actions promoting advocacy roles for women

within their society, and women at the grass root level, in order to create common grounds for exchange and understanding around traditional and universal values.

As mentioned in the last report published by the ALF, concepts as freedom of religion and belief and the non manipulation of religions will also be taken into account as a cross cutting issue.

3.5. Stakeholders

The Foundation acts as a Network of Networks of the 43 civil societies forming the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. National networks, which are coordinated by Head of Network institutions, participate in the Foundation's programme preparation, which is presented for approval by the Executive Director to the Board of Governors. Their role is essential to give a concrete shape to Euro-Med human and cultural co-operation.

The 43 networks are the constituent element of the Foundation and the major actors in implementation of the programme. They are responsible for addressing the specific needs and requests of the civil society and reflect them in the development and action plans of the National Networks, in project grant schemes, in regional actions and operations conceived and co-organized by the Foundation. The networks gather more than 3,000 organizations from the civil society, half of them non-governmental and the other half non profit public and private foundations, local authorities, or academic institutions. Members are active in several fields such as international relations, youth, gender and education, arts and heritage, democracy and human rights, research, environment and sustainable development, media, and religious affairs. It is therefore forecast that at least 2/3 of the Network members will benefit in the next three years from the intervention of the ALF through its partnership, exchange, and capacity building services, or through co organization of events/activities.

The Foundation also establishes specific partnership agreements with international organizations such as the UN Alliance of Civilizations, the Arab League, the Council of Europe, UNESCO, as well as regional networks and platforms operating in the Euro-Med region. These partnerships aim at implementing specific actions in line with the ALF programme and can increase the visibility of the Euro-Mediterranean partnerships

As far as the final beneficiaries of the Euro-Med region are concerned, the quantifiable estimation has to be based on official statistics. The total population of the 43 Euro Mediterranean countries corresponds to around 773 million and the total amount of young population aged between 15 and 24 is estimated to be around 117 million, corresponding to one sixth of the total population. The estimated target of youths who should be reached thorough the Foundation's activities and grants is between 1.2 million and 1.4 million. The estimated target of young people which should be reached using media and information technologies and means and in co-operation with existing media has been estimated to be at least 10% of the total youth population of the Euro-Med region.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Method of implementation

Direct centralised management.

1) Contracts

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and 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.

Participation in the award of contracts for the present action shall be open to all natural and legal persons covered by the ENPI Regulation. Further extensions of this participation to other natural or legal persons by the concerned authorising officer shall be subject to the conditions provided for in Article 21(7) of the ENPI regulation.

2) Specific rules for grants

Based on Article 108.1.b and 168.1.f of the Financial Regulation, an operating grant will be directly awarded to the ALF.

Such modality is allowed for actions that, like the current one, have specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation which is the case of the ALF which plays a pivotal role and functions as a network of networks.

In addition, compliance with Article 108.1.b is ensured not only by the objectives of the Foundation but also by the fact that the ALF is a result of a high level advisory group on dialogue between peoples and culture in the Euro-Mediterranean area called by the European Commission itself.

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions. They are established in accordance with the principles set out in Title VI 'Grants' of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget. When derogations to these principles are applied, they shall be justified, in particular in the following cases:

- Financing in full (derogation to the principle of co-financing): the maximum possible rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may only be applied in the cases provided for in Article 253 of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union.

4.2. Indicative budget and calendar

The action will draw on the following resources:

- EUR 7 million from the budget of the European Union; EUR 6.9 million for operating grant and EUR 0.1 million for audit;
- Up to EUR 6 million from funds provided by EuroMed governments.

The contribution of the European Union will be used for the Foundation's operating costs and for part of its managed activities for a duration of 3 years.

In compliance with Article 113 of the FR and 172.b of the IR the operating grant will not finance the entire operating expenditure of the ALF and will be gradually decreased in a proportionate and equitable manner in case of renewal.

The remaining activities will be funded by the EuroMed Governments or from other sources.

EUR 0.1 million will be earmarked for a service contract managed by the EU Delegation in Cairo with an audit company (system audit and verification of expenditures).

4.3. Performance monitoring

The Foundation is elaborating a coherent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system and impact measurement framework centred on result-based management. In light of the above, the Foundation will implement during the next phase the practical monitoring and evaluation system which will be managed internally. This system is considered to be an evolving process, in line with international principles, norm and standards for monitoring and evaluation and inspired by the European Commission literature. The system will be used to elaborate the contractual reports.

The European Union may conduct additional monitoring or evaluation missions, using external expertise according to needs. The Foundation and the European Union shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and jointly decide on the follow-up action to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, the reorientation of the action.

4.4. Evaluation and audit

Financial execution and statement will be subject to annual external audits, to be undertaken by independent auditors directly contracted by the Foundation.

4.5. Communication and visibility

The overarching aim of the Anna Lindh Foundation's communication activities is to maximize the reach and impact of the institution's strategy and programme at local, national and international level. In addition the objective of the ALF phase III is to reinforce the centrality of communication at all levels of the institution with the active participation of the National Networks and regional partners.

EU communication and visibility will be addressed in all Euro Mediterranean countries in close co-operation with the relevant EU Delegations and in line with the EU visibility guidelines applicable to all external actions.