

SUMMARY**2008 Annual Action Programme for Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development****1. IDENTIFICATION**

Budget headings	21.03.01 – Non State Actors in Development 21.03.02 – Local Authorities in Development
Total cost	EC contribution: € 180.145.000 (BL 21.03.01) € 31.736.000 (BL 21.03.02) TOTAL €211.881.000
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), see articles 11, 14 and 22.

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 actor oriented budget line specifically supporting actions with European 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 the area of development.

The thematic programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development", which succeeds 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 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.

¹ COM(2006)19, 25.01.2006

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 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, 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 this thematic programme's multi-annual strategy for the period 2007-2010.

The 2008 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

² See also the action fiches joint to this programme

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 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. Attention was also paid to support to non state actors and local authorities activities through other thematic and geographic instruments.

A total of 78 targeted countries where such support was deemed necessary and feasible according to at least one of the above-mentioned criteria were identified. 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 2008 budget is provided in Action Fiche 1.

As foreseen in the multi-annual strategy paper, as a general rule support to these in-country interventions will be managed directly by EC Delegations in those targeted countries. Implementation modalities will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. Each delegation will publish its local country call for proposals, which 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 also be published on the EuropeAid website.

Exceptionally, for those targeted countries where there is no possibility of publishing a local call for proposals, grants for in-country interventions will be awarded via call(s) for proposals to be centrally launched and managed by EC headquarters in Brussels. In such cases, the financial envelope for each one of these targeted countries will be clearly indicated in the call(s) for proposals.

The actions to be funded under this component of the programme should have, as an overarching objective, the strengthening of civil society or local authorities in the partner countries as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society. They can, in principle, 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).

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to 135.000.000€, 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 120.730.000€ and 14.270.000€.

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.

(ii) Global, multi-country interventions, managed by EC headquarters

1. According to the multi-annual strategy paper, part of this programme's financial resources will be allocated to the support to global, multi-country interventions which by their very nature is 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 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.

Priority will be given to actions targeting Least Developed Countries, in particular those not included in the list of targeted countries for in-country interventions (see Action Fiche 1).

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 targeted countries under the first component of objective 1.

Implementation modalities for these interventions will comply with the standard procedure of calls for proposals. In principle two separate calls for proposals, open exclusively respectively to non-state actors and to local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters (AIDCO) in Brussels. Those calls for proposals will better define the objectives and priorities for each one of them, according to the type of actors eligible.

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme is 44.731.000€, 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 31.890.000€ and 12.841.000€.

As regards specifically local authorities, the Commission will make efforts to further disseminate information on the programme, in order to valorise their role as development actors to improve and increase their participation to the programme. Local authorities have high convergence of values, principles and implementation modalities. Local authorities also have different skills and expertise to offer "vis a vis" non state actors, notably in areas such as water and waste management, urban planning and territory management, health and education, etc. Local authorities have also different funding possibilities which should be taken in consideration when defining more detailed co-financing rules for each type of eligible actor. In this context, better synergies between local authorities and non state actors will be sought in the implementation of this 2008 AAP, so that the full potential of a multi-actors approach can be explored.

Microfinance activities

In the specific case of actions concerning support to microfinance (including micro-credit) under Objective 1 (Action fiches 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. A portion of 20% of the funds available for this objective of the programme will be allocated preferably to awareness raising/development education actions in the twelve new Member States and proposed by organisations originating from these countries.

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 2008 for actions under objective 2 is 29 million EURO, 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 25 million EURO and 4 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 2008 for objective 3 of the thematic programme is 2.8 million EURO, 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 2.2 million EURO and 0.6 million EURO.

D. Exceptionally, a few grants for activities corresponding to objectives 2 and 3 of the programme will be directly awarded to actions identified and selected outside the system of calls for proposals. Those grants are awarded for a trust fund, amounting to € 900.000, to be managed by the North South Centre of the Council of Europe, as well as to three actions, for a total amount of € 1.300.000, proposed by NGO platforms and which are included in this Annual Action Programme for information purposes only as they are subject to separate financing decisions.

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.

Implementation of this thematic programme in 2008 is proposed on the assumption that the respective calls for proposals will generate enough good proposals to combine two budgetary years and, therefore, will be allowed to combine simultaneously 2008 and 2009 funds.

By allowing the combined use of those two budget years the EC aims at reducing the number of good proposals that each year are rejected for lack of funds, knowing that the EC is able to co-finance on average only half of the proposals that deserve funding submitted under each call for proposals. This rejection rate represents a significant waste of resources for applicants, in particular small organisations that invested their scarce resources in the preparation and submission of good proposals. The combination of two budgetary years in a single call for proposals will therefore reduce the rate of frustration among our partners and simultaneously increase the predictability of EC actions. Such system, which is already normal practice in other programmes/budget lines, will also allow a more cost effective use of a long, time consuming and expensive selection process.

It should also be noted that by doing so more resources can be invested by the EC and all the stakeholders on dialogue and consultation, exchange of information and best practices, training, evaluation and impact studies. Better dialogue with non state actors and local authorities and coordination with Member States and other donors, which already improved substantially in the last few months, will continue to improve the quality of cooperation between the programme's stakeholders and allow discussion and agreement on more strategic issues, so that the potential of the programme and its different eligible actors is fully used.

It should be stressed that this possibility (not obligation) of combining two budget years, while providing the indispensable improvements mentioned above, will not affect negatively or diminish the quality of the consultation process with stakeholders, and in particular with Member States through the responsible management committee. The possible combination of two budget years does not affect the prerogatives and responsibility of the management committee as regards discussion on the Annual

Action Programme, in particular the 2009 AAP, as well as any other actions implemented under this programme, including direct awards of grants not included in the AAP.

The actions fiches in annex to this Annual Action Programme show the indicative envelopes for each one of the actions of the programme to be financed from the 2008 budget. Besides, without prejudice to the adoption of the 2009 budget by the Budget Authority and subject to the confirmation in the 2009 AAP of the above-mentioned possibility of combining two budget years in a single call for proposals, an amount of 185,4M€ to be financed from budget line 21.03.01 and an amount of 32,1M€ to be financed from budget line 21.03.02 of the general budget for 2009 will be added to finance selected projects under the Call for Proposals mentioned in Action Fiches 1 to 4. Each action fiche shows the indicative envelopes that could be allocated to each one of those objectives/components of the programme from the 2009 budget.

Publication of all the above-mentioned calls for proposals is expected towards the end of 2008/January 2009.

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 targeted 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 targeted 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.

The action programme proposed for 2008 builds also on the experience acquired so far with the still ongoing implementation of the 2007 AAP. At Delegation level, the data available confirm the advantages of "deconcentrating" a substantial part of the programme as the best way to adapt it to each country specific needs and conditions, allowing the EC to work more closely with its partners and beneficiaries. Although 2007 was the first year when such a large scale operation has been implemented under this thematic programme, all the EC Delegations were able to publish their respective calls for proposals and therefore the perspectives for a timely selection and contracting of the selected proposals by the end of 2008 are good.

The publication of local calls for proposals is also an excellent opportunity to meet local organisations or international organisations active in the country and exchange with them information, best practices, and provide training which strengthen the capacity of the partner organisations and improve the Delegations' knowledge of local realities. Towards the end of 2008 the Commission will share with Member States and all the stakeholders more accurate information on this experience.

At centralised level the calls for proposals published for global/multi-country interventions, awareness raising/development education and coordination/networking were very successful in terms of number of proposals submitted, and therefore the perspectives for the future as regards those other important components of the programme are very good.

A general evaluation of the awareness raising/development education activities has been launched in 2008. This evaluation should be concluded towards September/October 2008 and its conclusions and recommendations will be duly taken into account in the mid-term review of this thematic programme scheduled for 2009. This mid-term review will be fundamental for defining the strategy for the second period (2011-2013) of the programme.

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). Other thematic programmes under the DCI instrument offer also numerous opportunities for engagement of both non state actors and local authorities in development activities (Food Security, Environment and Natural Resources, Migration and Asylum and Investing in People, including Health, Education, Gender Equality, Culture, Employment and Social Cohesion and Youth and Children).

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.

Considering that, as explained above, calls for proposals under this thematic programme always generate a high number of good quality proposals that unfortunately, for lack of sufficient financial resources, cannot be funded, the EC will endeavour to, through an improved co-operation with Member States and other donors and, where possible, emerging new actors in development, find co-funding arrangements that might allow the financing of those projects. In this context, contacts have been established with some Member States to explore the possibility of using the EC selection mechanisms to identify projects to be funded by the Member States national development programmes. The EC proposes to pursue those contacts and expand them to private funds active in the area of development aid.

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 in targeted partner countries - (Action fiche 1)	BL 21.03.01	€ 120.730.000
	BL 21.03.02	€ 14.270.000
		€ 135.000.000
TOTAL		
Objective 1 - Actions aiming at promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries - Global/multi-country interventions in partner countries - (Action fiche 2)	BL 21.03.01	€ 31.315.000
	BL 21.03.02	€ 12.866.000
		€ 44.181.000
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	€ 25.000.000
	BL 21.03.02	€ 4.000.000
		€ 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	€ 2.200.000
	BL 21.03.02	€ 600.000
		€ 2.800.000
TOTAL		
Objectives 2 and 3 – Joint management agreement	BL 21.03.01	€ 900.000
GLOBAL AMOUNT		€ 211.881.000

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.

ANNEX II

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: € 120.730.000 (BL 21.03.01) € 14.270.000 (BL 21.03.02) TOTAL €135.000.000		
Method/Management mode	Project approach - Calls for Proposals managed by EC Delegations in third countries (or exceptionally by EC headquarters in Brussels) Total of 78 targeted 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 € 120.730.000 and € 14.270.000. 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.

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 partnerships⁴, 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 78 targeted countries where support under this programme is deemed necessary and feasible according to at least one of the above-mentioned criteria were identified.

In establishing the list of targeted countries and amounts allocated to each one of them, 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 absorption capacity of non state actors and local authorities in the country and implementation modalities of the programme.

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.

⁴ 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.

The list of targeted countries and 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 being 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 as a general rule at country level by EC Delegations.

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. 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. If 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.

Exceptionally, for those targeted countries where there is no possibility of publishing a local call, grants for in-country interventions will be awarded via call(s) 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 also 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: 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 targeted countries where the action is taking place are in principle eligible. In addition, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their

respective country 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 at least the last three years. As far as partner countries organisations are concerned such requirement can be reduced to two years. When duly justified, the requirement for official registration could be waved.

For the purposes of this programme, associations of local authorities are eligible under the local authorities' envelope.

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 78 targeted countries and respective allocations per budget line foreseen for **2008** is provided hereafter.

African, Caribbean and Pacific countries

	Criteria (1)	Criteria (2)	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Angola	✓	✓	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Cameroun		✓	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Cape Vert		✓	650.000 €	200.000 €	850.000 €
Chad	✓	✓	1.250.000 €	250.000 €	1.500.000 €
Congo Brazzaville	✓	✓	1.000.000 €		1.000.000 €
Cuba	✓	✓	300.000 €		300.000 €
Djibouti		✓	300.000 €		300.000 €
DRC	✓	✓	1.250.000 €		1.250.000 €
East Timor (*)		✓	1.500.000 €		1.500.000 €
Equatorial Guinea	✓	✓	200.000 €		200.000 €
Eritrea	✓	✓	250.000 €		250.000 €
Guinea Bissau	✓	✓	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Guinea Conakry	✓	✓	1.000.000 €		1.000.000 €

Guyana		✓	700.000 €	300.000 €	1.000.000 €
Haiti	✓	✓	2.750.000 €	750.000 €	3.500.000 €
Ivory Coast	✓		2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Kenya	✓	✓	3.500.000 €		3.500.000 €
Liberia (*)	✓	✓	2.000.000 €		2.000.000 €
Madagascar	✓	✓	1.500.000 €		1.500.000 €
Mauritania	✓	✓	1.500.000 €	500.000 €	2.000.000 €
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 €
Solomon Islands		✓	450.000 €		450.000 €
Somalia	✓	✓	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Sudan	✓	✓	3.500.000 €		3.500.000 €
Swaziland (*)		✓	750.000 €		750.000 €
Togo	✓	✓	450.000 €	150.000 €	600.000 €
Uganda	✓	✓	2.500.000 €		2.500.000 €
Vanuatu		✓	250.000 €		250.000 €
Zambia		✓	2.250.000 €	750.000 €	3.000.000 €
Zimbabwe	✓	✓	1.700.000 €	300.000 €	2.000.000 €
TOTAL			53.250.000 €	4.700.000 €	57.950.000 €

Central and South America countries

	Criteria (1)	Criteria (2)	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
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Argentina		✓	700.000 €	300.000 €	1.000.000 €
Bolivia		✓	2.500.000 €	500.000 €	3.000.000 €
Brazil		✓	4.000.000 €		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	✓	✓	2.500.000 €	500.000 €	3.000.000 €
Paraguay	✓	✓	600.000 €	150.000 €	750.000 €
Peru		✓	1.750.000 €	250.000 €	2.000.000 €
Uruguay		✓	450.000 €		450.000 €
Venezuela	✓	✓	2.000.000 €	250.000 €	2.250.000 €
TOTAL			23.730.000 €	3.020.000 €	26.750.000 €

Asia countries

	Criteria (1)	Criteria (2)	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Afghanistan (*)	✓	✓	2.000.000€		2.000.000€
Bangladesh		✓	4.000.000€		4.000.000€
Burma/ Myanmar	✓	✓	2.500.000€		2.500.000€
Cambodia	✓	✓	2.000.000€	2.000.000 €	4.000.000€
China (*)	✓	✓	2.500.000€		2.500.000€
India		✓	4.000.000€		4.000.000€
Indonesia		✓	850.000€	150.000€	1.000.000€
Iran (*)	✓	✓	1.500.000€		1.500.000€

Kazakhstan	✓	✓	450.000€	300.000€	750.000€
Kyrgyzstan	✓	✓	750.000€		750.000€
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		✓	2.500.000€	500.000€	3.000.000€
Sri Lanka	✓	✓	1.000.000€		1.000.000€
Tajikistan	✓	✓	750.000€		750.000€
Thailand	✓	✓	3.000.000€	1.000.000€	4.000.000€
Vietnam	✓	✓	1.200.000€	300.000€	1.500.000€
Yemen		✓	1.050.000€	450.000€	1.500.000€
TOTAL			37.300.000 €	5.450.000 €	42.750.000 €

Eastern Europe, Mediterranean and Middle East (ENPI)

	Criteria (1)	Criteria (2)	BL 21.03.01	BL 21.03.02	TOTAL
Armenia		✓	500.000€	300.000€	800.000€
Azerbaijan (*)		✓	750.000€	250.000€	1.000.000€
Belarus	✓	✓	750.000€	250.000€	1.000.000€
Georgia	✓	✓	500.000€	150.000 €	650.000 €
Morocco		✓	850.000 €	150.000 €	1.000.000 €
Syria	✓	✓	250.000€		250.000€
Tunisia	✓	✓	450.000 €		450.000 €
West Bank and Gaza Strip	✓	✓	2.400.000€		2.400.000€
TOTAL			6.450.000 €	1.100.000 €	7.550.000 €

Criteria as spelled out in the multi-annual strategy document:

- (1) Country situations not conducive to ensuring non state actors and local authorities involvement in the development process, including difficult partnerships⁵, unstable situations, conflict, poor governance etc.
 - (2) Country where specific needs of parts of the population are not addressed in its development strategy and groups are out of reach of mainstream services and resources, excluded from the policy-making process
- (*) Countries whose respective in-country programme may have to 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€. Under their respective calls for proposals 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. Under their respective calls for proposals 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.

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.

3.5. Schedule of implementation

Calls for proposals are expected to be published towards the end of 2008/January 2009.

3.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to 135.000.000 €.

Subject to the approval of the 2009 final budget by the Budgetary Authority and confirmation in the 2009 AAP of the above-mentioned possibility of combining two budget years in a single call for proposals, the indicative envelopes that would in principle be allocated to this action from the 2009 budget amount to a total of approximately € 136 million, of which € 121,5 million under budget line 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and € 14,5 million under 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development". The country allocations from 2009 budget will in principle be approximately the same as from 2008 budget.

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 III TO AAP 2008

ACTION FICHE 2

NON-STATE ACTORS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE 1

GLOBAL, MULTI-COUNTRY/REGIONAL INITIATIVES

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.		
Total cost	EC contribution: € 31.315.000 (BL 21.03.01) € 12.866.000 (BL 21.03.02) TOTAL € 44.181.000		
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

7. 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, to be managed by AIDCO EC headquarters.

8. 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS

8.1. 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.

8.2. 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 targeted countries under the first component of objective 1. Priority will be given to actions targeting Least Developed Countries, in particular those not included in the list of targeted countries for in-country interventions (see Action Fiche 1).

An indicative financial envelope of € 44.181.000, 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 € 31.315.000 and € 12.866.000, is reserved for this component of the thematic programme. 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

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.

8.3. 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. In principle two separate calls for proposals, open respectively to non-state actors and local authorities, will be published by EC Headquarters in Brussels. Considering the high number of proposals expected, the system of restricted calls for proposals (concept notes + complete proposals) will in principle be used. In this call for proposals, a specific financial envelope will be foreseen respectively for non-state actors and local authorities.

Grants awarded following the global calls 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: 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, all non state actors must be officially registered as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country 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 the purposes of this programme, associations of local authorities are eligible under the local authorities' envelope.

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.

8.4. 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.

The initial planned duration of an action may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 60 months.

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.

8.5. 3.5. Schedule of implementation

Publication of calls for proposals is expected for towards the end of 2008/January 2009.

8.6. 3.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme is of 44.181.000€.

Subject to the approval of the 2009 final budget by the Budgetary Authority and confirmation in the 2009 AAP of the above-mentioned possibility of combining two budget years in a single call for proposals, the indicative envelopes that would in principle be allocated to this action from the 2009 budget amount to a total of approximately € 47,5 million, of which € 34,5 million under budget line 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and € 13 million under 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development".

9. 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. Training, 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 IV TO AAP 2008

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: € 25.000.000 (BL 21.03.01) € 4.000.000 (BL 21.03.02) TOTAL €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 "Local Authorities in Development", for an amount respectively of 25 million EURO and 4 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/or 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. A portion of 20% of the funds available for this objective of the programme will be allocated preferably to awareness raising/development education actions in the twelve new Member States and proposed by organisations originating from these countries.

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 an 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, changing 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.

For the purposes of this programme, associations of local authorities are eligible under the local authorities' envelope.

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 towards the end of 2008/January 2009.

7.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme is of € 29 million.

Subject to the approval of the 2009 final budget by the Budgetary Authority and confirmation in the 2009 AAP of the above-mentioned possibility of combining two budget years in a single call for proposals, the indicative envelopes that would in principle be allocated to this action from the 2009 budget amount to a total of approximately € 30 million, of which € 26 million under budget line 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and € 4million under 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development".

8. SUPPORT MEASURES

Applicants will be invited to foresee systematically evaluations under each project's budget. A general evaluation of the awareness raising/development education activities has been launched in 2008. This evaluation should be concluded towards September/October 2008 and its conclusions and recommendations will be duly taken into account in the mid-term review of this thematic programme scheduled for 2009. Training, 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 2008

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: € 2.200.000 (BL 21.03.01) € 600.000 (BL 21.03.02) TOTAL €2.800.000		
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 2.2 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.

For the purposes of this programme, associations of local authorities are eligible under the local authorities' envelope.

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 € 1,000,000.

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.

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 towards the end of 2008/January 2009.

11.6. Indicative amount

The indicative financial envelope for 2008 for this component of the thematic programme amounts to € 2.8 million.

Subject to the approval of the 2009 final budget by the Budgetary Authority and confirmation in the 2009 AAP of the above-mentioned possibility of combining two budget years in a single call for proposals, the indicative envelopes that would in principle be allocated to this action from the 2009 budget amount to a total of approximately € 4 million, of which € 3,4 million under budget line 21 03 01 "Non State Actors in Development" and € 0,6 million under 21 03 02 "Local Authorities in Development".

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. Training, 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 VI TO AAP 2008

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 - € 900.000 (BL 21.03.01)		
Method/Management mode	Project approach – <i>Direct centralised management with award of 3 grants / joint management with North South Centre of the Council of Europe for one component</i>		
DAC-code, if applicable	15150	Sector	Strengthening of civil society

14. RATIONALE

This Action Fiche concerns the direct award of 4 grants respectively for three actions proposed by NGO platforms whose activities correspond to objectives 2 and 3 of the programme, as well as for a trust fund to be managed by the North South Centre which aims at supporting actions that also correspond to objectives 2 and 3. **This Annual Action Programme constitutes a financing decision exclusively for action 1 described below, a joint management agreement signed with the North South Centre of the Council of Europe.** The actions proposed by the NGO platforms have or will be 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)⁶), and therefore are presented in this Annual Action Programme for information purposes only.

⁶ OJ L 378, 27.12.2006, pp. 41-71.

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 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.

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 4 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. These 3 actions are included in this Annual Action Programme for information purposes only, as they are subject to separate financing decisions.

The actions are the following:

Action 1

Joint management agreement with the North South Centre: **Duration: 36 months / EC maximum contribution: approximately €900,000.00**

This joint management agreement aims at reinforcing the co-operation in the area of Development Education between the European Commission and the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (“North-South Centre”) of the Council of Europe, whose headquarters are located in Lisbon.. The NSC has developed along the years a considerable expertise in the area of awareness raising to global and development issues, and the networks/partnerships it has developed in this area could be used and reinforced to the benefit of both parties, in view namely to reach a common pan-European strategy in the area of awareness raising to development issues.

The proposed three-year joint management agreement intends to entrust the North South Centre with the management of a fund aiming at supporting activities identified by non state actors and local authorities aiming at building capacities and developing networking structures and strategies for development education and public awareness, based on good practice, including systems of training, co-ordination and support directed to educational key stakeholders, young people and youth organisations, as well as migrant communities. Its ultimate goal is to continue the process of building critical public awareness of, and support for, international development co-operation, through global development education.

The actions to be supported should focus on the following development issues: sustainable development/North-South relations/human rights, democratic governance and development/ migration and co-development/intercultural dialogue. In geographical terms, the activities should focus on strengthening dialogue in Europe and between Europe and the South (Southern Mediterranean countries and Sub-Saharan countries).

This action's objectives are the following:

- a) to provide and facilitate space for social dialogue, exchange of best practices and identification of common priorities between key stakeholders, such as civil society organisation, local authorities and equivalent actors from the Southern hemisphere, on global/development education to developing common awareness-raising strategies and actions;
- b) to strengthen partnerships and networks - at local, national, cross-boarder and European level - in the field of global/development education and to develop coherent strategic frameworks for global/development education;
- c) to contribute to and develop local and national action plans on global/development education, in particular in new EU member States and to bridge a critical gap between strategic goals, action plan and their practical realisation of CSO and LRA and to support them in introducing new (holistic) programmes, schemes and approaches;
- d) to provide the space for sharing global/development education principles and practices through learning (and e-learning) and to provide inter-regional and global training- prioritising young people, women and marginalised/vulnerable groups and to further integrate development issues and global/development education into formal and non-formal education systems;

e) to strengthen Africa-Europe youth cooperation and policies through youth exchanges and capacity building of youth organisations focusing on the new framework created by the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, the 2nd EU-Africa Heads of States Summit and the Africa-Europe Youth Summit.

The action main partners are the focal points (NGOs) in 36 European countries coordinating the NSC Global Education Week, the European Youth Forum and other regional youth platforms, governments of the 47 member States of the Council of Europe, Congress of Local and Regional Authority of the Council of Europe, INGO platform of the Council of Europe and the EU Committee of the Regions. Its target groups are civil society organisations in particular in the EU new member states, in the Mediterranean region and sub-Saharan Africa, youth organisations, women's associations, migrant communities, human rights organisations, educational NGOs and practitioners in non-formal education settings.

This cooperation agreement would culminate in 2010 in a Pan-European Conference on Global Development Education, bringing together all the main key stakeholders in the field of global development education, co-organised by the EC and the NSC.

A steering committee composed by appropriate stakeholders' representatives (EC, Members States, NGOs, Local Authorities, etc.) will be set up with the purpose to provide strategic guidance to the fund.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

ACTION A

Operating grant to CONCORD (European Confederation of Relief and Development Non Governmental Organisation) / Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €680,760.00 (62% of total cost of CONCORD action plan for 2008)

CONCORD action plan for 2008 has the following objectives:

1. Contribute to a responsible and consistent European development policy in the development world. More specifically, Concord: a) will contribute to ensuring development objectives and principles have a place on the European Union's agenda; b) will ensure European policy is defined in a consistent, transparent and participatory way throughout the decision-making process; c) will 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. More specifically, Concord: a) 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; b) 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; c) 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.

The action's expected results are the following:

- Generation of expertise on the European agenda by CONCORD's members.
- Application of dynamics of participatory work between CONCORD's members, in particular at Member State level and their capacity building.
- Preparation of coordinated common positions and strategies on issues of common interest to the Confederation.
- Strengthening institutional and political dialogue with European actors/decision-makers.
- Strengthening partnership with European institutions on development issues.

ACTION B

" L'avenir de l'Europe : pour une Europe solidaire et ouverte sur le monde", / Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €230,000.00 (71,3% of total project's cost)

This project was submitted for co-financing by the Coordination SUD, the French Development NGO platform. The project has two main objectives: a) to launch a durable citizen and political debate and policy about the future of Europe by reconnecting citizens issues with regards globalisation and European agenda; b) to improve the European development co-operation policies to better contribute to the international objectives to fight against poverty.

The project's expected results are: a) better knowledge of the citizens on the role of the Europe in the world, the European development and co-operation policies and need for coherence between the policies and the development objectives; b) Reinforcement of the links between the French and European civil society actors with the South as regards the European co-operation and development policies.

ACTION C

EC Project of Development NGOs for Czech EU Presidency 2009 / Duration: 12 months / EC maximum contribution: €240,000.00 (90% of total project's cost).

This project was submitted for co-financing by FORS, the Czech Development NGO platform. The project aims to contribute towards effective EU development cooperation, to engage civil society organisations in implementation of effective aid and to mobilise public and political support towards fulfilment of national and EU commitments for effective aid.

15.2. Stakeholders

Target Beneficiaries are mainly Non State Actors but also Local Authorities from the EU and acceding countries.

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

a) As mentioned above, 3 grants will be directly awarded within the framework of Article 168.1.c of the Implementing Rules 110 FR, as the relevant Authorising Officer has taken into consideration the situation of the facto monopoly of the concerned organisations;

b) For the component to be implemented by the North South Centre of the Council of Europe, the relevant Authorising Officer has considered, on the basis of the results of the "4 pillars" audit undertaken by DG AIDCO, that the requirements of Article 53 (d) FR are met by this international organisation. Therefore, Joint Management can be proposed for the implementation mode of this component.

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

An amount of € 900.000 is allocated to the joint management agreement with the North South Centre of the Council of Europe. The remaining three projects which are subject to individual financing decisions amount to a total of € 1.300.000. The total amount available to fund these 4 actions under budget line 21 03 01 budget for 2008 amounts therefore to € 2.200.000.

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.