Instrument for Stability


Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Heading</th>
<th>19 06 01 01 – Crisis response and preparedness - Peace-building Partnership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cost</strong></td>
<td>€ 7 Million</td>
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</table>

Programme components:

1. Peace-building partnership Support: €3.35 Million of which the following priorities:
   
a. Capacity-building and early warning: €3 Million
   
b. Best-practices – exchanges of experience: €0.175 Million
   
c. Participation in international networks: €0.175 Million

2. Early warning and early recovery: €2.25 Million of which the following priorities:
   
a. Development of damage and loss Assessment methodologies and contribution to the UN early recovery cluster: €1.25 Million
   
b. Support to the African Union: €1 Million

3. Training for civilian stabilisation missions: €1.4 Million of which the following priorities:
   
a. European Training modules, development of EU training standards and
Introduction

The 2007-2011 Strategy Paper for the Instrument for Stability identifies as one of its three main objectives “the strengthening of the international capacity and regional capacity to anticipate, analyse, prevent and respond to the threat to stability and human development posed by violent conflict and natural disasters”, as well as to improve international co-operation in post-conflict and post-disaster recovery.

The 2007-2009 Indicative Programme for the Instrument for Stability focuses on building capacity in the international system, including regional organisations and non-state actors, foresees four main results during the period:

– Improved operational capacity of non-state actors, regional and sub-regional organisations and networks;

– Improved early warning mechanisms are established; improved access to field-based political analysis, and policy-oriented research is ensured;

– Common tools and working practices are put in place with the UN, World Bank and other multi-lateral organisations, as well as with Member States;

– EU training standards are established, and are compatible with standards used by the UN and other relevant multilateral organisations. A strengthened and expanded cohort of trained experts is available for international missions.

This Annual Action Programme sets out the specific measures that will be taken under the 2007 budget to implement this strategy\(^1\). There will be three main components:

1- Peace-building Partnership Support – mainly grant funding to develop the capacity of non-state actors to anticipate and respond to crisis, and to improve the dialogue between non-state actors and policy makers at European level;

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\(^1\) This Annual Action Programme is also the Annual Work Programme in the sense of Article 110 of the Financial Regulation
2- Development of multi-lateral and regional co-operation on early-warning, post-conflict and post-disaster needs assessment;

3- Strengthening the EU’s contribution to international civilian stabilisation missions through training of EU experts.

PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

1. PEACE-BUILDING PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

1.1. Background

Much of the field experience and capacity for crisis prevention and response lies in the non-state sector. Non-state actors, particularly those with extensive field-presence are an invaluable source of expertise, and can often provide policy-makers with reliable and timely early-warning and analysis of incipient conflict.

While the Commission and some Member States draw upon this capacity regularly in situations of crisis, and provide ad-hoc project funding, NGOs have very limited access to funding for their own long-term institutional development. As a result, many find it difficult to put staff time into evaluating programmes, codifying best practice, training new staff or providing input into the wider international policy debate. Given the interest of the Community to build civilian capacity for crisis response, and to benefit from the experience, it plans to award grants to strengthen this capacity upstream of any specific crisis.

In addition, the 2007-2011 Strategy Paper notes that “the Commission intends to develop the Peace-building Partnership as the concrete follow-up to the ‘Preparatory Action’ to establish the Conflict Prevention Network”. This Preparatory Action commenced in September 2007, and aims to increase, develop and pull together international knowledge and expertise in the field of conflict prevention, to ensure that all actors, including the EU institutions, can access strong and independent analysis in this field in order to better facilitate informed and more evidenced-based policy decisions. It takes the form of a consortium of civil society organizations and covers six priority areas: environment, natural resources, energy and conflict; security and conflict; external support for dialogue and mediation for conflict prevention and resolution; democratization, human rights, justice and reconciliation; trade and economic development; and gender in conflict prevention/peace building. While it is premature to draw lessons learned from the work undertaken from this Preparatory Action, these will be useful with regard to the future intention to gradually integrate the work undertaken within the framework of the Conflict Prevention Network into the Peace-building Partnership. However, the Preparatory Action itself was also carefully drawn up taking into account lessons learned from work undertaken within the framework of previous incarnations of the Conflict Prevention Network: notably that it focuses more on long-term conflict prevention and peace-building issues – rather than on pure crisis management issues; that it is based on close consultation with relevant Commission services; and that it ensures a degree of flexibility in terms of being able to draw upon the various competences of different organizations within the network.
1.2. **Strategic framework**

This component responds to three specific objectives identified in the 2007-2011 Strategy Paper for the Instrument for Stability:

- to build the capacity of non-state actors and regional and sub-regional organisations engaged in the prevention of violent conflict, post-conflict political stabilization and early recovery after a natural disaster;
- to strengthen capacities for providing early warning of potential crisis situations;
- to ensure access to a well-trained body of experts with relevant skills in the fields listed under Article 3(2) of the Instrument for Stability.

The actions proposed are intended to contribute to two results identified in the 2007-2009 Indicative Programme:

- Improved operational capacity of non-state actors, regional and sub-regional organisations and networks;
- Improved early warning mechanisms are established; improved access to field-based political analysis, and policy-oriented research is ensured;

The actions proposed are, moreover, designed to respond to the European Consensus on Development’s call for the Community to develop a “comprehensive prevention approach to state fragility, conflict… and other types of crisis”.

1.3. **Objectives and priorities**

The specific objectives of the component are to:

- strengthen the institutional capacity of non-state actors specialised in mediation, the delivery of assistance in fragile states and in post-crisis early recovery;
- strengthen the contribution of non-state actors to the prevention of crisis through early-warning systems and the providing of field-based political analysis;
- strengthen the EU institutions’ ability to anticipate and respond to situations of crisis through developing a partnership between specialised non-state actors at policy and operational level;

The following priorities are envisaged:

a. **Capacity-building and early warning**

The Commission will launch a call for proposals with a view to awarding operating grants covering the following areas:

- measures to strengthen the operational capacity of NGOs specialised in addressing state fragility, conflict, emerging inter-community tensions and early recovery from crisis;
• development of capacity for informal (‘track II and III’) mediation and conflict-sensitive development;

• conflict early-warning systems and field-based political analysis in fragile states.

The bodies will be selected for the relevance of their activities as set out in their annual work programmes, in the following areas: establishment of networks, training, improved logistical, communications or financial management systems, the codification and dissemination of best practice, development and maintenance of standby arrangements for crisis response (including expert rosters, acquisition of baseline data), the adoption, establishment and testing of relevant technologies (eg mine-detection technologies) and the promotion of co-operation between non-state actors and the EU, as well as other regional or sub-regional organisations.

b. Best-practices: Exchanges of experience

Within the spirit of enhancing dialogue with civil society under the Peace-building Partnership, a series of round-tables will be held, designed to allow relevant organizations to take the initiative in proposing the provision of policy advice to the EU institutions on issues relevant to the implementation of the EU's crisis response. Such issues are initially expected to include mediation, natural resources and conflict, gender issues, early warning and the contribution of technologies to crisis response and preparedness. In this context, small grants will be awarded to prepare papers for these round-tables, contribute to the costs of participation, and codify and disseminate the conclusions. Given the likelihood that the civil society organizations involved in this activity will be of limited size and capacity; that they may need to act rapidly in responding effectively to emerging crises; and that the outcome of such round-tables will be of great interest to the EU institutions, it is envisaged to offer financing of 100%, to be determined and justified on a case by case basis by the authorising officer, in accordance with Art. 253 Implementing Rules.

c. Participation in international networks

In order to ensure coherence between the work of the Community and other major donors, the Commission participates in a number of networks at multi-lateral level, both within the OECD DAC and within the framework of the UN. These include the Conflict, Peace and Development Cooperation network, the Fragile States Group and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the International Recovery Platform. The costs of membership fees will be covered under this component, and will not be subject to calls for proposals in accordance with Article 108 paragraph 2 d) of the Financial Regulation.

1.4. Foreseen results

-Strengthened capacity of non-state actors in crisis response, in particular in the areas of promoting early warning, confidence building, mediation, reconciliation and track two diplomacy, building effective bridges between non
state actors and formal diplomatic initiatives, addressing emerging inter-community tension and improving post-conflict and post-disaster recovery; Improved dialogue between non-state actors and policy-makers at the EU level

- EU institutions have access to stronger field-based political analysis. Early warning signals identified by non-state actors, regional and sub-regional organisations are more systematically transmitted to EU policy-makers;

- The EC contributes in both policy and financial terms to relevant international networks and frameworks of co-operation.

1.5. Selection criteria

- Financial capacity: Financial soundness of participants: co-financing capacity

- Operational capacity: Evidence of adequate operational capacity and professional qualifications, and experience in the activity covered by the call for proposals.

- (for NGOs) Evidence of strong field presence in third countries, strong links with third country non-state actors, or access to a strong network of NGOs with such links;

- Readiness to participate in networks and to share best practice through the EU Peace-building Partnership.

1.6. Award criteria

- Relevance: how relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities?

- Methodology: are proposed methods suited to reach the objectives and expected results?

- Organisation of work and composition of the proposed team

- Cost-effectiveness: is the proposed budget suited for proper implementation and for the expected results?

1.7. Indicative amounts

€3.35 million (total)

- Priority a: Build capacity for crisis response and early warning 3,000,000€

- Priority b: Exchanges of experience on ‘best practices’ 175,000€

- Priority c: Participation in relevant international networks 175,000€

1.8. Type of selection procedure

- Priority a: one call for proposals will be launched.
- Priority b: one call for proposals will be launched.
- Priority c: participation in specific networks

1.9. **Maximum co-funding rate**

- Priority a: 80%
- Priority b: 100%, not exceeding €40,000 per grant.
- Priority c: total costs of membership fees

1.10. **Timetable**

- Priority c: due date for membership fees

All contracts will be concluded by the end of 2008.

2. **Co-operation with international and regional organisations on early warning and early recovery from conflict and natural disasters**

2.1. **Background**

The aid for disasters and conflicts represents some 25% of total overseas development aid in EU Member States. Much of this is channelled through UN agencies or the World Bank on the basis of multi-lateral needs assessments or consolidated appeals. However, there is still a perception that countries recovering from a natural disaster or major conflict suffering from an excess of needs assessment missions, by both donors and by implementing agencies. These both put considerable strain on the resources of the host country, and make it difficult to co-ordinate donor efforts, because of the patchwork nature of the needs analysis.

In response to this, Ministers agreed in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness to ‘joint assessments, joint strategies and co-ordination of political engagement’. The European Consensus on Development took this commitment one step further, stating:

- **EU is committed to promote better donor coordination and complementarity by working towards... common implementation mechanisms including shared analysis, joint donor wide missions**

- **The EU will take a lead role in implementing the Paris Declaration commitments on improving aid delivery ...[and committed to]**

- **... an increasing use of multi-donors arrangements;**
- reduce the number of un-coordinated missions by 50%.”

Given these commitments the Community has an interest in ensuring that needs-assessment methodologies are technically robust, address the requirements of the EU as a donor and a political actor and, in the context of the conflict-sensitive approach to development that the EC is committed to, are effective in identifying the critical measures to foster political stability in the early-recovery phase of a crisis.

With this in mind, the Commission has begun detailed technical discussions with the World Bank and the UN on developing the existing Post Conflict Needs Assessment (PCNA) and the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) methodologies. This component will take this work forward.

A second consideration addressed by this component is the need to ensure the link between relief, reconstruction and long term development. The Instrument for Stability was conceived to help bridge these phases. The UN system has also recognised this challenge. In response it has established an ‘early recovery cluster’, led by UNDP and bringing together a wide range of specialised partners, ranging from the FAO, OHCHR, to UNICEF, UNEP and UNOSAT. For the EC, the UN Early Recovery Cluster represents an essential bridge between the humanitarian relief phase of crisis response and the reconstruction phase. The Early Recovery Cluster has recently carried out an assessment of existing capacities for early recovery in natural disasters and conflict situations and has identified some critical gaps. These include weaknesses in assessment tools, gaps in training and inadequate access to data and to rapidly deployable expertise, and difficulties in securing fast and predictable funding for recovery planning.

In addition to work with the multi-lateral agencies, this component will also support the EU’s partnership with the African Union. A central priority of the EU’s development co-operation and Common Foreign and Security Policy is the fostering of peace and security in Africa. In July 2007 the Council endorsed a Concept and action plan for the “strengthening of African Capabilities for the prevention management and resolution of conflicts” 2. The major part of Community support in this area will come through the Africa Peace Facility, which has a major capacity-building element, financed under the European Development Fund (EDF). The Commission envisages a further, more limited contribution to be made from the Instrument for Stability supporting the establishment of the African Union’s early warning system.

2.2. Strategic framework

This component responds to the objective identified in the 2007-2011 Strategy Paper for the Instrument for Stability to build “closer operational links between the EU and relevant UN agencies, the World Bank and other multilateral and regional organisations”.

The actions are intended to contribute to two results identified in the 2007-2009 Indicative Programme:

2 Council Document 11316/06 of 7 July 2006
common tools and working practices are put in place with the UN, World Bank and other multi-lateral organisations, as well as with Member States;

improved early warning mechanisms are established.

2.3. **Objectives and priorities**

The specific objectives of the component are to:

- support the establishment of sound technical methodologies for both multi-lateral post-conflict and post-disaster needs assessment that enjoy the confidence of EC and Member States bi-lateral assistance programmes;

- put in place effective mechanisms for operational co-ordination on needs assessment between the EU, the World Bank and the UN;

- to enhance the capacity of the UN system to respond in the post-crisis recovery phase;

- strengthen the African Union’s early warning systems through transfer and customisation of the monitoring, alert and open source intelligence techniques developed by the EU for its own purposes;

The 2 priorities envisaged are:

**a. Development of Damage and Loss Assessment methodologies and contribution to the UN Early Recovery Cluster through a contribution to the UNDP**

This element will develop an extended methodology for damage and needs assessment in crisis situations. It will build on existing tools and methods such as ECLAC (a damage assessment methodology widely tested in Latin America), sectoral methodologies in use by UN agencies, and the satellite and field-based damage assessment techniques used by the Commission. The methodology will seek to generate a succinct overview of damage that compromise the lives and livelihood of the affected community in the medium term, and can be used as the basis of national recovery planning and donors’ decisions about aid prioritisation.

The work would focus on: identification of relevant physical data for recovery and reconstruction needs, definition of data collection roles and responsibilities, information and communications technology support, identification of global disaster risk hotspots and training.

The methodological work will be taken forward under the aegis of a steering board comprising the EC, key UN agencies, the World Bank and the DAC. Interested Member States may also be invited to participate. UN agencies will field-test and validate the methodology.

In order to complement the methodological work described above, the Community will also support the institutional development of key UN agencies within the Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery. This work will focus on ensuring both a consistent methodological approach across UN agencies and
that specialised UN agencies can contribute specific sectoral needs assessments consistent with the broader PCNA/PDNA methodology. It will also seek to ensure that data collection in the ‘relief’ phase of crisis response is made available in the ‘reconstruction’ phase.

The work will also promote linkages between immediate emergency responses (in the humanitarian phase) and durable long-term reconstruction (in the ‘early recovery’ phase).

Actions will include:

- collection, codification and validation of sectoral needs and damage assessment methodologies;
- dissemination and training for cluster members;
- enhanced technical co-operation and data sharing, including the exploration of a roster of satellite imagery and GIS (geographic information system) experts;
- dissemination of PDNA and PCNA methodology throughout the cluster, and development of a surge capacity ensuring access to the necessary specialised technical expertise.

b. Support to the African Union

There are already strong staff-to-staff contacts between the African Union, the Commission and the Council Secretariat. Funding under the Instrument for Stability will support these working relationships through the provision of technical tools for both the AU Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), its Situation Room and certain sub-regional organisations who are developing complementary systems. These will include:

- customisation for the AU of the Commission’s remote sensing and modelling services, including those developed by the Joint Research Centre in the framework of the Africa Observatory for Sustainable Development;
- development of conflict indicators and early warning systems, based on systems used by the EU;
- installation of open source intelligence tools, media tracking systems, information exchange tools and provision of related training;

2.4. Foreseen results

-Common post conflict/disaster damage and needs assessment methods, tools and working practices

3 Further information can be found at [http://www-gvm.jrc.it/tem/African_observatory/index.htm](http://www-gvm.jrc.it/tem/African_observatory/index.htm)
- Strengthened capacity of key UN agencies and the African Union to contribute to damage and conflict needs assessment and to put in place contingency plans for early response in a crisis;

2.5. Type of selection procedure

Priority a: joint management with the UNDP in accordance with Article 53 d) paragraph 1 b) of the Financial Regulation “wherever the Commission and the international organisation elaborate a joint project or programme”, for approximately €1.25 Million.

Priority b: through an administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) for technical assistance to the African Union with regard to provision of equipment and training, for approximately €1 million.

2.6. Maximum co-funding rate

Priority a: 80%

Priority b: 100%

2.7. Timetable

The grant with UNDP and the administrative arrangement with the JRC will be awarded in the first semester 2008.

3. Training

3.1. Background

Following the European Councils in Feira in June 2000 and Göteborg in June 2001, the EU undertook to contribute to the strengthening of civilian capabilities to support stabilisation efforts in countries emerging from a situation of political crisis. It established concrete capability targets in four priority areas - police, rule of law, civilian administration and civil protection. Since then a further area – monitoring – has been added to the list. The capabilities thus generated were intended to contribute to both EU-led operations and operations led by another multi-lateral actor, such as the UN or the OSCE.

In 2001, as part of its contribution to this work, the European Commission launched a training project to prepare Member States’ experts for the participation in international crisis management, peace-keeping and stabilisation missions.  

4 The network is open and is composed in year 2007 of the following partners: International Alert (UK, lead partner), ZIF (Germany), Scuola Superiore di Studi Universitari e di Perfezionamento Sant’Anna (Italy), Centre for Crisis Management (Finland), ENA (France), Escuela Diplomática (Spain), Folke Bernadotte Academy (Sweden), ASPR (Austria), International Training Center (Hungary), MFA (Lithuania), Netherlands Institute of International Relations (NL), INA (Portugal), MFA (LUX), Royal Institute for International Relations (BE), Danish Emergency Management Agency (DK), Department of Foreign Affairs (IR), MFA (GR), Permanent Representation to the EU (Latvia), MFA (Estonia),
The over-arching aim of the training was to contribute to improved civilian crisis management and the establishment of a civilian rapid deployment capacity within the EU.

The project was developed in partnership with a consortium of Member States’ training institutions, which came to be known as the “European Group on Training” (EGT) comprising organisations from almost all Member States. Over the past five years a series of core and specialised courses, with a particular focus on the areas of ‘rule of law’ and civilian administration, were developed, and have delivered training to 1400 experts nominated by Member States. In its last phase, the project has trained nearly 100 experts made available to participate in fact finding missions at the request of the Commission or the Council Secretariat (the so-called ‘crisis response teams’ or ‘CRTs’).

Thus, the training contributed to the creation of a pool of experts holding various professional posts, well-acquainted with crisis management and ready to be deployed at the early stage of a crisis, thereby increasing the possibility of the EU to respond effectively to international crises and conflicts, as well as to ensure a more coherent approach to EU crisis management operations.

The Council Conclusions of 14 May 2007 noted the contribution that the Community’s training project has made to the development of EU civilian capabilities. The conclusions highlighted in particular, its value in creating a “European forum for exchange of views and best practices in the field of EU's civilian crisis management”.

This view is backed up by a mid-term evaluation of the project. However, the evaluation also found that while reasonable numbers of experts nominated by Member States for the courses have gone on to participate in international missions, relatively few were found to have taken part in EU missions. This may be a consequence of the desire of Member States to avoid any formal link between participation in the training project and decisions on deployment on EU missions. While the Commission respects the position of Member States on this point, the deployment rate of experts trained under Community programmes will continue to be an important indicator of the impact of its training, and the Commission will continue to seek ways to improve the selection of experts for participation in Community-funded programmes.

3.2. Strategic framework

This component will focus on two specific objectives identified in the 2007-2011 Strategy Paper for the Instrument for Stability:

– to ensure access to a well-trained body of experts with relevant skills in the fields listed under Article 3(2) of the Instrument for Stability; and

5 Training activities related to civil protection expertise has primarily been taken forward under the auspices of the Community Civil Protection Mechanism. This has its own legal base and funding and will not be addressed in this action programme.
– to build close operational links between the EU and relevant UN agencies and programmes, the World Bank and other multilateral and regional organisations;

In line with the 2007-2009 Indicative Programme, and (in terms of lessons learned) in response to the Council conclusions of 14 May and the findings of the evaluation of the first phase of the training programme, this component will:

– place a stronger focus on training standards/certification, best practice, and curriculum development, as well as broadening the network of EU training institutions providing joint training;

– where training is funded, give priority to operational training (rather than general core courses) in areas where there is high demand for EU expertise and relatively low supply;

– explore the possibility of co-financing mechanisms with Member States, rather than supporting the full costs of each expert’s courses;

– develop stronger links between the EU and the UN, OSCE and other regional organisations, and improve compatibility of training requirements and delivery;

– open up training to adequately qualified staff of NGOs as well as Member States’ experts.

It will also seek to address capacity-shortages both in the fields of activity eligible for funding under the Instrument for Stability, and in the priority areas identified in the EU civilian capabilities targets.

3.3. **Objectives and priorities**

The specific objectives of the component are to:

– build consensus around a European training standard for deployment in international missions, compatible with UN, World Bank and OSCE requirements;

– complete the remaining training for Member States’ experts identified for participation in EU Crisis Response Teams (CRTs);

– as a second step, and following approval by the Commission, support the transfer of European training modules to the Africa Union and other intergovernmental bodies with similar training needs;

– train up to 600 experts in the field of police and rule of law;

The following priorities are envisaged:

a. **European Training modules and development of European training standards, and extending co-operation to other international and regional organisations**

The Community will finance the consolidation, documentation and publishing of the training curricula, modules and course material established over the past five years. In addition it will support the extension of this work to a limited
number of specialised areas in which the experience gained can be of relevance to other multi-lateral initiatives in which EU Member States participate. The Community will also finance the completion of training of experts identified for participation in EU Crisis Response Teams. This will ensure that the 5-year target of 100 trained experts available for deployment will be reached. If feasible, additional training may be offered to some members of the CRTs in order to prepare them for participation in multi-lateral post-conflict or post-disaster needs assessment.

Taking into consideration existing training standards, the Community will support the continuation and completion of work already conducted by EGT around a European Training Standard for participation in international missions, as well as the work to explore a system of training certification. A critical consideration in this work is the need to integrate relevant training modules developed in the framework of the OECD Conflict, Peace and Development Cooperation network and Fragile States groups, as well as to ensure compatibility with the needs of the UN and the OSCE, as well as the World Bank, where appropriate. The establishment of a system of accreditation for training organisations in EU, OECD or UN training modules will be explored.

In parallel, the Community will support measures to transfer the EU’s experience, acquired through the past work of EGT of training experts for civilian missions, to regional and sub-regional organisations. Priority will be given to the African Union, providing advice and sharing training material.

b. Delivery of training for police experts in civilian missions

As noted above, the Community’s training project so far focused mainly on the rule of law and civilian administration. There remains, however, an overwhelming demand for police expertise in civilian missions. Training in this area is a highly specialised task, and national traditions are varied. The Community will promote a common EU approach by support for the delivery of training of the type offered by EU police training organisations.

EC financing would go towards a series of combined training and exercise sessions with the view to the development of a rapid deployment capability of EU police elements in crisis management operations. The sessions would seek to enable the EU to improve the robustness, the flexibility and the interoperability of its police elements when deployed either by the EU or by the UN and OSCE. Funding would also support the development of training concepts designed to be interoperable with UN/OSCE training concepts.

3.4. Foreseen results

Priority a: an outline European training standard will be tabled for political agreement;

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6 one example would be the Justice Rapid Response Network which supports the investigation of war crimes and serious human rights abuses
3.5. **Indicative amount**

Total: €1.4 million.

Priority a: European Training Modules for civilian crisis response missions, development of related EU training standards and international co-operation: approximately €0.8 million.

Priority b: Training of police experts for participation in international missions: approximately €0.6 million.

3.6. **Type of selection procedure**

Priority a: The financing of the EC Project on Training for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management with EGT as targeted project (for approximately 0.8 € million) will represent the completion of previous experience, and ensure the continuity of previously established academic standards.

Priority b: The Commission will entrust these tasks to a national agency under centralised indirect management. A procedure allowing expressions of interest from all Member States agencies will be followed. A previous analyse will be carried out in order to ensure that this national agency complies with the principles of economy, effectiveness, efficiency and other conditions. An agreement laying down the detailed arrangements for the management funds and the protection of the financial interests of the Communities, in particular the provisions referred to in Art. 41.2 of the IR will be concluded with the national agency retained”.

3.7. **Maximum co-funding rate**

80 %

3.8. **Timetable**

It is expected that the financing will be awarded at the beginning of 2008.

4. **General provisions to the implementation of the 3 components:**

4.1. **Evaluation and audit**

The final evaluation of the projects will be based on the identified impact and sustainability of the overall project results.

An audit will be carried out at the end of the projects. Furthermore, the actions will be subject to examination by both the European Court of Auditors and the European Anti-Fraud Office.

4.2. **Communication and visibility**
All appropriate measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the projects have received funding from the European Union.