

Standard Summary Project Fiche – IPA decentralized National programmes

Project Number: TR080108

1. Basic information

1.1 CRIS Number: TR080108

1.2 Title: Civil Society Facility-Civil Society Development for Active Participation

1.3 Sector: 35-Civil Society

1.4 Location: Turkey

Implementing arrangements:

The Beneficiary of this project is the Association of Civil Society Development Centre (STGM). A Steering Committee (SC) will be established comprising all components of the project. The SC will provide guidance to improve project implementation especially to determine the selection criteria of grants beneficiaries and their awarding. It will be composed of representatives from STGM, EUSG and from the ECD. For the Institutional Framework in project management see Annex 3.

1.5 Implementing Agency:

The CFCU will be Implementing Agency and will be responsible for all procedural aspects of the tendering process, contracting matters and financial management, including payment of project activities. The director of the CFCU will act as Programme Authorizing Officer (PAO) of the project.

Mr. Muhsin ALTUN (PAO-CFCU Director)

Central Finance and Contracting Unit

Tel: +90 312 295 49 00

Fax: +90 312 286 70 72

E-mail: muhsin.altun@cfcu.gov.tr

Address: Eskişehir Yolu 4.Km. 2.cad. (Halkbank Kampüsü) No:63 C-Blok 06580

Söğütözü/Ankara Türkiye

1.6 Beneficiary (including details of SPO):

The main Beneficiary of this project is the Association of Civil Society Development Centre (STGM). A project implementation team will be established. This team will be responsible to carry out the tasks described in this project fiche. The Director of STGM will act as SPO of the project.

Sunay Demircan (**STGM Director and SPO**)

STGM

Tel: +90 312 4424262

Fax: +90 312 4425755

89. sok. 14/9

Yıldız Ankara Türkiye

E-mail: sunay@stgm.org.tr

1.7 Overall cost: 3.311.111 EUR

1.8 EU contribution: 3.040.000 M EUR

1.9 Final date for contracting: 2 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement

1.10 Final date for execution of contracts: 2 years following the end date for contracting

1.11 Final date for disbursements: 3 years following the end date for contracting

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objective:

The overall objective is enhancing participatory democracy in Turkey through strengthened NGOs.

2.2 Project purpose:

The project purpose is to strengthen the institutional capacity of target group NGOs in order to encourage civil participation to decision making processes at local and national levels and to enhance dialogue between state, NGOs and private sector.

2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA

Enhancement of freedom of association, as well as the development of civil society and dialogue is a significant element in the Accession Partnership (2007) and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis and the Strategy Paper 2003.

Accession Partnership with Turkey 2007

The Accession Partnership indicates the principles, priorities, intermediate objectives and conditions for Turkey's membership preparations, which Turkey has to meet in short-term (1-2 years) and medium-term (3-4 years) within the scope of EU negotiation process. The main priorities for Turkey relate in particular to its capacity to meet the political criteria set for EU accession by the European Council at Copenhagen in 1993 and the requirements of the negotiating framework adopted by the Council on 3 October 2005, specifically the requirement to "achieve stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities".

A short-term priority in the Accession Partnership is the civil and political rights, involving freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and civil society organizations. The proposed project is in conformity with the following objectives specified in the Accession Partnership.

Freedom of assembly and association

- Continue implementation of all reforms concerning freedom of association and peaceful assembly in accordance with the ECHR and its related case law. Implement measures to prevent the excessive use of force by security forces,
- align with best practices in EU Member States as regards legislation on political parties.

Civil Society Organizations

- Further strengthen the domestic development of civil society and its involvement in the shaping of public policies,
- Facilitate and encourage open communication and cooperation between all sectors of Turkish civil society and European partners.

EU Presidency Council Decision December, 2004

The EU Presidency Council took the following decisions on 17 December 2004 regarding the involvement of civil society to accession negotiations: “Parallel to accession negotiations, the Union will engage with every Candidate State in an intensive political and cultural dialogue. With the aim of enhancing mutual understanding by bringing people together, this inclusive dialogue also will involve civil society.”¹

The priority areas defined in this project have also been emphasized in *National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis* (NPAA).

National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis which has been adopted in July 2003 states that the enhancement of freedom of association and development of civil society as a priority area under chapter II, Political Criteria Section II titled as ‘Freedom of association, Right to Peaceful Assembly and Civil Society’:

“The Government will continue to support the development of civil society and its participation in democratic life. In this vein, the relevant legislation will continue to be reviewed in the light of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, especially with regard to compliance with the letter and spirit of Articles 11, 17 and 18.

In this respect:

- Legislation concerning associations as well as meetings and demonstrations will be reviewed. Provisions in various legislations will be collected into as few laws as possible to provide consistency.
- The legislative and administrative reforms concerning associations, foundations, meetings, and demonstration marches will be implemented effectively.”

Furthermore, references and significance of NGOs in the “*Preliminary National Development Plan (2004-2006)*” is evident especially in relation to participation in local and regional decision-making and strengthening local initiatives in rural development.

In view of economic and social cohesion, participation in decision-making of national, local and regional non-governmental and civil society organizations as part of the stakeholder group has been emphasized in the Preliminary National Development Plan 2004-2006. This Plan includes NGOs in its statement on capacity building in order to be improved in line with EU norms.

The NDP states under ‘Strengthening of Governance Mechanisms and Improvement of Institutional Capacity’ heading: “*Work on draft Public Administration Basic Law containing, inter alia, delegation of powers to local administrations, draft laws related to local administrations and draft Law on the Establishment of Regional Development Agencies are being carried on...Capacities of local authorities, NGOs, service unions and project implementation units will be improved in line with the EU norms. Especially young population and female labour force will be supported and their knowledge and skills will be improved. Cooperation between universities, education-research institutions and other groups of the society will be supported*”.

¹ Brussels European Council, 16/17 December 2004. 16238/04

The objective of this project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of target group NGOs in order to encourage civil participation to decision making processes at local and national levels and to enhance dialogue between state, NGOs and private sector.

The proposed project is in conformity with the objectives specified in Accession Partnership Turkey 2007 and National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis. It answers to a short term priority of the Accession Partnership to facilitate and encourage open communication and cooperation between all sectors of Turkish civil society. This project shall contribute, by improving local grassroots NGOs to an increased capacity to take part in decision-making, respond to call for project proposals in this area and enhance collaboration between local authorities, the public, and private sector and among NGOs.

2.4 Link with MIPD

The aim of IPA assistance to Turkey is to support the EU pre-accession strategy adopted in the conclusions of the European Council of December 2004, and corresponds to three objectives: progress towards fully meeting the Copenhagen political criteria, adoption and implementation of the *acquis communautaire*, and promotion of an EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue.

Civil Society Development is also one of the important priorities that is covered by IPA assistance to turkey. In the MIPD, civil society development is elaborated within the ***Institution Building*** component. Under the component 1 “Transition Assistance and Institution Building” it was stated that “*Activities on promotion of the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue may address a broad range of issues such as religious communities, gender issues, cultural and historical heritage, and human rights. The support provided also seeks to contribute to the strengthening of civil society in Turkey to ensure that it becomes a strong and active partner in the dialogue. Where pertinent, scholarships, awards and prizes may also receive financial support the document*”.

2.5 Link with National Development Plan

Strengthening of civil society and its involvement in decision making processes is considered by the 8th Special Expert Commission on Good Governance in Public Sector under the 9th Five Year Development Plan (2007-2013).

This project shall contribute to 9th Five Year Development Plan encouraging dialogue between NGOs, public and private sector and enable local NGOs for active participation to decision making processes by supporting their institutional capacity.

9th Five Year Development Plan (2007-2013) addresses cooperation of public sector, NGOs and private sector as a basic principle: “In the development process, a competitive market, effective public administration and democratic civil society will function as the institutions complementing each other”²

² 9th Development Plan, approved by Turkish Grand National Assembly on 28.06.2006 with Law No: 877.

9th Five Year Development Plan also indicates the importance of cooperation between all sectors of society: “The Plan will serve to provide a long term perspective and unity in objectives, not only for the public sector, but also for the society. Within this framework, it will contribute to the communication and the cooperation towards common objectives among the public sector, the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).”

2.6 Link with national/ sectoral investment plans(where applicable)

Not Applicable

3. Description of project

3.1 Background and justification:

Turkey has been a European Union associate member since 1963 and was officially recognized as a candidate for full membership on December 12th, 1999, at the Helsinki summit of the European Council. As a candidate State Turkey destined to join the Union on the basis of same criteria as applied to other candidate States. The Copenhagen criteria specify that candidate countries must be able to assume the burden of membership. The first criterion states in particular that “membership requires that the candidate state has achieved stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities.”

Development of a democratic and normalized healthy working condition for the civil society organizations in Turkey will play a pivotal role in compliance with the above-mentioned criteria. In this context, particular attention will be paid to the strengthening of co-operation between civil society and the public sector and NGO’s democratic participation level with regard to the fulfillment of the Copenhagen criteria.

Turkey has taken significant steps to fulfill the Copenhagen political criteria. In this regard a number of constitutional and legal reforms have been introduced in recent years many of which directly affected civil society in terms of rights and freedoms. These reforms were critical for enabling space for civil society in Turkey in terms of granting freedom of association and assembly. Considering the amendments in the Associations Law and in the Civil Code, which were reframed within the context of the harmonization process with EU, freedom of association has been promoted significantly; some draconian measures, which were imposed by the previous laws, have been removed.

Improvements in the area of the freedom of association can be summarized as follows:

- Procedures and activities of associations have been transferred from security forces to the civil unit, accordingly the Department of Associations was established under the Ministry of Interior.
- Annual control of associations has been shifted from periodical police control to the declaration system, based on declaration by associations and including general and financial information and activities.
- Associations are no longer required prior authorization to get foreign funding, instead they only need to inform the Department of Association for the arrival of foreign money into their bank account.

- International activities and representation of associations are not, anymore, subject to the permission.
- Some bans and restrictions concerning aims and activities of associations were lifted.
- Bans towards becoming founders or members of associations were eased.

In spite of these positive developments, the new law of associations has also introduced some shortcomings as well. For example, drastic sanctions exist for minor mistakes and wrongdoings in the form of fines which are significantly high for ordinary Turkish citizens and can be very intimidating for the directors of associations.

According to the Turkey 2007 Progress Report, the legal framework for **freedom of assembly** is broadly in line with European standards. Citizens have been able to exercise this right without interference by the authorities or the security forces in most cases.

As regards **freedom of association**, amendments to the legal framework introduced in 2004 had positive results. These include an increase in the number of associations and their membership.

However, the obligations imposed by the Law on Associations to notify the authorities before receiving financial support from abroad and to provide detailed documents on such support place a burden on associations' operations.

The positive trend in civil society development and dialogue triggered by recent reforms and observed over the last few years has continued. **Civil society organizations** have been able to take a more active role in shaping policy and addressing social, economic and political causes. There are approximately 80,000 registered associations and several hundred unions and chambers (including vocational and professional associations). However, political pluralism would be enhanced if participation in policy-making would be higher.

Although civil society in Turkey is undergoing a significant era of transformation, it is limited of strength. Despite these reforms aiming at a more favorable environment for the operations of the NGOs, the participation level of the NGOs in all sectors of the democratic life has remained limited. The NGOs in Turkey are facing great limitations which are particularly apparent given the narrow depth and breadth of civic participation, inadequate skills and resources of CSOs, and undeveloped linkages among CSOs.

In line with the strategies of both EC and Turkey mentioned above, the European Commission and the Turkish Government launched the Civil Society Development Programme (CSDP) in 2001 with a view to support the development of civil society in Turkey. Within this programme a service tender was launched and an NGO Support Team was established to operate components of the Local Civic Initiatives and Turkish-Greek Civic Dialogue elements of the programme in November 2002. This project has been completed as of May 2005.

The CSDP NGO Support Team has conducted trainings and seminars for over 700 NGOs in 13 provinces, bringing together NGOs from at least 64 provinces, provided one-on-one assistance in networking, fundraising, project development and awareness-raising to grassroots NGOs in order to contribute to civil society development throughout the country.

Throughout 2002-2005, the demand and needs of NGOs have shown that it is essential to ensure continuity of such services provided to NGOs in Turkey, more so because civil society organizations shall play an increasingly important role in the accession process of Turkey to the EU and in shaping EU policy in the future.

As a result of this need the Association of Civil Society Development Centre (STGM), which is the only civil body in Turkey working nation wide on the capacity building of civil society, was established in April 2004 by a group of civil activists who are influential in domains such as human rights, women, youth, culture, religious rights and environment. The establishment of STGM could be considered as a continuation of the Civil Society Development Programme (CSDP).

After its establishment, STGM submitted a project to the EU-Republic of Turkey 2004 Pre-accession Financial Cooperation Programme for strengthening NGOs in Turkey in order to ensure their active participation in the decision making process. The “Strengthening Freedom of Association for further Development of Civil Society” Project was launched on June 2005. STGM established a fully equipped and staffed support Centre in Ankara in August 2005 and started to provide support by means of trainings & seminars, networking conferences and face to face contacts to its target group NGOs working in the field of gender, children, human rights, youth, environment, the disabled and culture and arts.

The project has been completed in 15 June 2007. During the June 2005- June 2007 period more than 100 training sessions, seminars and conferences have been conducted in order to improve the communication /networking and project development capacity of local NGOs with the participation of more than 2000 NGO representatives.

Currently, STGM is implementing “Supporting Civil Society Development and Dialogue in Turkey” (SCSDDT) Project which is funded by European Commission and will be completed in August 2009. This Project which can be considered as a continuation of “Strengthening Freedom of Association for Further Development of Civil Society Project” and it is mainly aiming to enhance the capacity building process of local NGOs -priority will be given to those which are active in the fields of STGM’s target group- and raise awareness of civil society on freedom of association through strengthening and decentralizing STGM’s services.

The weaknesses in developing policy and influencing public administration, causes NGOs to have limited opportunities in participating to management. As a result of their weak influence on management channels, NGOs indirectly exclude themselves from democratic processes. This shortcoming of NGOs, which are otherwise important channels for people’s (active citizens’) participation, comes to the fore as a factor slowing down the process of democratization in Turkey and people’s participation to the management of affairs.

A well-developed and functioning civil society is an essential element of a democratic system and efficient NGOs have a key role to play in expressing the demands of citizens by encouraging their active participation as well as raising their awareness. Accordingly, many elements of the *acquis communautaire* are based on the existence of operational NGOs operating within the related policy area.

Considering the high number of NGOs in the country, their lack of capacity to actively take part in the decision-making processes, the weaknesses in their institutional and financial structure and several other issues, the existence of a technical and financial support centre is of utmost importance.

This project is designed in such a way that, grassroots NGOs will continue to receive significant amount of capacity building activities and support. This is expected to reflect to the built capacity in the local level, which will definitely create a momentum of active involvement of these NGOs at various levels. Regarding the continuation of the support to these processes and securing the communication of these NGOs with the central government and EU, the four field offices of STGM will play an important role.

Taking into account all the decisions and documents, it is obvious that the priorities of this project are in line with the priorities of EU Communities. This project has been designed to contribute to the consolidation and broadening of political reforms and EU alignment efforts through strengthening the civil society in Republic of Turkey in the pre-accession process.

This project will specifically serve the fulfillment of the priority field: freedom of association and encouraging the development of civil society. The government of Turkey has taken significant steps in improving the legal and regulatory environment for freedom of association in Turkey. With the adoption of a new Law on Associations (July 2004) and the publication of a new draft law on foundations, Turkey is undergoing significant changes in the area of civil society legislation. Nevertheless, the full dissemination and disbursement of these improvements to the beneficiaries can be possible only with a functioning, healthy and active civil society sector with an ability to participate in channels of decision-making, communication and with a closer touch and relationship to its target group, coupled with an increased awareness among the public on the significance of the NGO sector. This is primarily what this project aims to contribute in the development of civil society.

The proposed project has 5 components:

Component I: Support Services for NGOs (Headquarter & Local Support Centers)

Component II: Trainings

Component III: Grant Scheme

Component IV: Dialogue

Component V: Communication and PR

The STGM essentially gives priority to local organizations that are in its target group; however, NGOs with relatively higher capacity may also benefit from its services.

Component I: Support Services For NGOs (HQ and LSCs)

Since its establishment STGM is providing technical assistance and support to target group NGOs all over Turkey from its headquarter and Local Support Centers. Support services enables STGM to respond to technical and legal questions and requests from NGOs. This component also enables STGM to improve its own capacity in terms of meeting extensive and changing needs of NGOs. It should be noted that STGM aims to be a good model for NGOs with its efforts on gender, disability and environmental mainstreaming. Also, STGM puts strong emphasis on participatory management and implementation of the project. In this regard Advisory Committee and Monitoring and Follow Up Committee meetings provide invaluable first hand input from relevant stakeholders.

Responses received from local NGOs clearly point out that STGM is owned and increasingly supported by target group NGOs. STGM become an important and reliable reference point for NGOs seeking for support on various issues regarding civil society.

During the first 9 months of the SCSDDT project, technical support (project evaluation, short-term expert support, etc.) was provided to 88 NGOs via the HQ and 111 NGOs via LSCs, 13

questions on legal issues were responded via the “Legal Advisory Line”, and 65 NGOs benefited from the computers and office facilities mostly in LSCs.

Support requests from the NGOs, especially from the NGOs around the LSCs, are gradually increasing as the LSC offices are getting widely known. More than half of the supports provided from the LSCs were given in the last three months since the start of the project. This is particularly true for computer and office facility supports.

STGM has so far determined the content and extent of its services based on some studies and reports, but STGM mostly relied on its own experiences and communication with NGOs, which is lacking a sound basis reflecting facts and figures about the civil society in Turkey. A comprehensive scientific research would contribute considerably not only for STGM to enhance the quality and quantity of its services, but also for all parties relating to civil issues to use as a reference for their policies and activities.

Component II: Trainings

The Mapping study conducted by STGM in October 2005 provided important information on the needs, expectations and capacities of target group NGOs. In this study the most vital needs of local NGOs are stated as fundraising, qualified human resources, effective governance, communication, and institutionalization. In particular, local NGOs stated the PCM trainings as one of their priorities in the field of capacity building in mapping study and all other reference studies. In accordance with the results of the mapping study, the curriculum of capacity building trainings was prepared for 2005-2007 period, and STGM conducted widespread capacity building trainings, project cycle management (PCM) trainings, and tailor-made (TMT) trainings.

In addition to PCM, Strategic Planning (SP) and TMT trainings constituted the backbone of the 2007-2009 training curriculum. With the organization of widespread PCM trainings during “Civil Society Development Program”, “Strengthening Freedom of Association for further Development of Civil Society” and “Supporting Civil Society Development and Dialogue in Turkey” (SCSDDT) Projects at least 2/3 of local NGOs in the target group of STGM, participated PCM trainings, which brought the NGOs to a saturation level.

STGM organized more than 30 tailor made trainings on demand in order to meet the diverse and changing needs of local NGOs. The evaluation of the trainings indicated that quick response of STGM to the demands of local NGOs and focused training modules of TMTs made TMTs more successful. The success of tailor made trainings were also underlined during the 3rd Advisory Committee Meeting of STGM and the Advisory Committee Members (NGO representatives) requested STGM to increase the number of TMTs.

Considering the success and the efficiency of TMTs compared to the high and sufficient number of PCM trainings organized , within the scope of this project STGM will mainly focus on tailor-made trainings. STGM HQ and LSCs will formulate TMTs according to the demands of local NGOs or platforms. TMTs will be in a flexible format answering the diverse needs of local NGOs, which in turn will contribute to the main objectives of this project, namely dialogue and participation. The trainings in the LSCs regions will be coordinated by LSCs. Training demands from other regions will be coordinated by HQ. With this division of tasks, STGM’s sphere of influence will be expanded.

STGM will also continue to organize general capacity building trainings. Content of the general capacity building trainings will be determined upon the results of the baseline study which will be conducted at the beginning of this project. General Capacity Building trainings will target newly established right-based NGOs. These trainings will ensure the increased capacity of local NGOs on participation in decision making process and dialogue with state (public institutions), local authorities and volunteers.

In order to empower the institutional capacity of local NGOs, STGM will conduct an Institutional Coaching Program (IC). IC Program will consist of in-house supports aiming to enhance institutional capacity of local NGOs. Local Support Centers and HQ will be responsible of ICs.

Component III: Grant Scheme

Most of the local NGOs are established with considerable motivation and enthusiasm; however, due to many technical and financial problems, they may lose motivation in a short period. As mentioned in the outcomes of the Mapping Study (see Annex IV), financial insufficiency and inability in creating resources are a priority of the many common problems of local NGOs. There is a strong need to sustain and encourage their energy and motivation. In this respect, small grants may function as start-up funds for small-local level organizations by providing an opportunity for them to realize their small scale projects on local level. This sort of support is also reflected by the expectations of local NGOs from STGM as mentioned in the Mapping Study.

On the other hand, in order to support operations of the non-governmental organizations in Turkey, several types of funds are available, especially by international donors. However, as mentioned in the book “Issues and Resolutions of Right Based NGOs in Turkey”, “Organizations in metropolitan areas have great advantage in their lobbying activities towards funding agencies as a result of their geographical location and also the existence of experts or people with close ties to the state within their bodies.” (STGM, 2007; p.91) At this point, EU is almost the only funding institution in terms of the availability of its funds from all over the country. EU funds seem to be the only alternative for funding of the projects of NGOs working other than the metropolitan areas.

During the last years, STGM played an important role for NGOs in accessing and using EU funds for their capacity building projects through its trainings, promotion activities for EU grants, monitoring and technical assistance activities. With this grant activity, the role of STGM as a technical assistance organization for EU grants for NGOs will be strengthened as requested several times by the target group NGOs in STGM Advisory Committee Meetings.

In this context, a total of 1.000.000 Euro will be provided to small scale projects of local NGOs working within the thematic areas of the project.

These grants will mainly function as a tool to facilitate and stimulate the NGO networking capacity, project development capacity, improving their relations with public institutions, their lobbying, campaigns, communication and PR activities all of which constitute main problematic areas of NGO activities all over Turkey. Target group of the grant programme in general terms, will be grassroot NGOs who are based in Turkey and actively working in the thematic areas of the project. However specific target groups of the grant programmes will precisely be identified during the preparation of the guidelines.

Component IV: Dialogue

During the CSDP period (2001-2005), the target NGO group was determined and an integrated capacity building support program for NGOs in Turkey was launched. With the establishment of STGM as CSDP's continuation, the second phase (2005-2007), which was built on the results of first phase, started. In this phase, a more refined and dense capacity building programme on networking, communication and project management was conducted. Currently, the third phase (2007-2009) is underway, which is marked with decentralization of STGM services through 4 local support centers and empowerment of local civil society by encouraging and facilitating establishment of local NGO platforms and thematic networks and raising awareness on freedom of association..

The fourth phase (2009-2011) will sustain the supports for building capacity and effectiveness of local NGO platforms established in the third phase, and establishment of new ones. This will further improve the dialogue between NGOs and enhance their capacity to act together. A critical emphasis of this phase will be on building mutual dialogue and understanding between NGOs and public sector, and enhance NGOs' capacity to take active role in decision making processes. Mutual dialogue between NGOs and public sector will be strong leverage for reaching the overall objective of this project, i.e. building participatory democracy in Turkey. In this regard, dialogue activities will enable STGM to support NGOs in their advocacy and lobbying efforts, thus constitute one of the most important pillars of this project.

Component V: Communication & PR

The main communication activities of this project include maintaining and improving the STGM website, establishing a Liaison Office in Istanbul, publishing awareness raising materials, preparing a documentary film, organizing the 2nd NGO Festival of STGM, supporting small scale NGO campaigns and holding media meetings.

All these activities produce useful and effective tools to increase the visibility of STGM, to build and/or sustain the dialogue between NGOs, and to increase positive image of the EU in Turkey.

From the beginning STGM attached high importance to the means of communication and used all communication tools very effectively. Especially the website constitutes a unique example considering the service it is providing in the civil society field. STGM web site become an important tool not only for ensuring the visibility of STGM and the project's activities but also providing information on several issues via its links such as news from civil society / NGO activities, fund resources, legal advisory line, e-library, NGO database, publications, civil society legislation, EU Negotiation process and NGOs, local administration and NGO cooperation.

Since the establishment of the STGM website, the range of website visitors has been raised from 350 (daily unique based) to 1000 in average on daily base.

Awareness raising materials on various topics relevant to civil society are prepared and disseminated in line with the needs of local NGOs. These materials especially books, booklets, Siviliz newsletter and CDs have met with a great interest. STGM published 15 books & booklets up to May 2008 which are also available in the website as a PDF File. 2500 printed copies of each book and booklet were distributed to NGO's.

The NGO Festival is another major activity to present and promote dialogue between NGOs and civil society in Turkey. It is important for STGM to share all these experience with other stakeholders of the civil society members and public authorities, therefore, the festival will be a good tool to facilitate and encourage open dialogue and cooperation between all the actors of civil society. The festival will also contribute to acquaintance and partnership relations between Turkish and European civil society organizations, too.

Strong relations with media organizations are important to promote activities of STGM and NGO community, and EU's support to development of civil society in Turkey. Effective media support increases visibility of STGM, enables a strong and sustainable NGO in Turkey and increase positive image of EU in public.

During the first 6 months of the project, it was recognized that some major PR activities need to be carried out from İstanbul.

- During the preparation period of the NGO Festival frequent visits have been realized to Istanbul in order to arrange the venue, co-sponsors, partners, etc. which was over the planned visits in the project for this activity. Need for a permanent staff in Istanbul has been realized considering feasibility of the activities would be held.
- STGM needs to improve its visibility to ensure better dialogue with the stakeholders and secure the sustainability as well. In this regard, frequent visits and face to face meetings with journalists and columnist are getting more and more important. As the media companies are based in Istanbul, STGM should create an opportunity to facilitate the relations with media.
- STGM's İstanbul Liaison Office will play a crucial role to provide STGM's services (technical assistance) for the NGOs which based in Istanbul. For instance during the first 6 months of the present project, we have recognized that at least 65% of the small scale campaign support were given to the NGOs in Istanbul.
- Some of the big scale activities of the new project (i.e seminar , see in Section and the NGO Festival) will be held in Istanbul
- Since Corporate Social Responsibility is an emerging issue as pressing business challenges in Turkey as it has been all around the world, one of the main pillars of the project is to ensure better dialogue between private sector and NGOs as a result of sustainability of resources for STGM and local NGO activities. Considering all the big scale national and international companies are in İstanbul, planned CSR activities and related dialogue meetings obviously must be held in Istanbul.

Taking into account the above mentioned issues, STGM has decided to establish İstanbul Liaison Office and STGM's Public Relations Officer will be working in this office. It should be noted that STGM Liaison Office will not be a full furnished office, rather it will be a rented room that will be placed in an already established NGO office or an institution. The expected expenditure of the office will not exceed €1000 per month including running costs. No extra staff will be recruited, the PR officer position in Ankara will be transferred to the İstanbul Liaison Office.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact (where applicable)

Technical assistance and capacity building activities for NGOs (including NGO training programs, institutional coaching, and networks) will result in an enhanced capacity of NGOs to participate in local decision-making mechanisms at higher levels and this will build the base of a participatory democracy. NGOs with enhanced capacity will exert pressures to have their voices heard in the process of negotiations with the EU and thus the contribution of civil society to this process will not be limited to large organizations at large centers.

NGOs which receive institutional coaching support from STGM will transfer their knowledge and capacity to other NGOs around.

Enhanced communication capacity of NGOs shall contribute to improved dialogue with government institutions.

By carrying out the grant scheme activities, STGM's skills and knowledge to prepare call for proposals including guidelines as well as the organizational capacity shall be increased.

Information on EU and EU accession process will be widely distributed through seminars and meetings.

EU visibility will be increased. In all project activities of STGM such as trainings, seminars, and meetings EU grants and the accession process will be explained, in addition the roles of CFCU, EUSG and ECD will also be explained.

3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

3.3.1. Project

3.3.1.1. Purpose

The purpose is to strengthen institutional capacity of target group NGOs to encourage civil participation to decision making processes at local and national levels and enhance dialogue between state, NGOs and private sector.

Measurable indicators:

By the end of the project,

- At least four local NGO platforms have been well structured and improved their institutional capacity and their umbrella platform were established.
- At least 375 NGO representatives have been trained and their capacity enhanced.
- Dialogue mechanisms and platforms between MPs and NGOs have been established.
- € 1.000.000 was distributed to min. of 35 projects as small scale grants to NGOs.
- STGM services successfully decentralized through local support centres.

Capacity, basic needs, awareness level of Turkish NGOs on freedom of association were identified.

3.3.1.2. Results:

Component 1: Support Services For NGOs (HQ and LSCs)

The services provided by STGM HQ and LSCs are further improved in quantity and quality and continued regularly.

Measurable indicators:

- Every 6 months at least 10 NGOs received legal support from STGM.
- Every 6 months Advisory Committee meetings organized with the participation of maximum 100 NGO representatives.
- At the end of the project, 100 books, 50 CD/DVDs and 25 subscriptions was purchased for HQ and LSCs
- At the end of the project, 400 NGOs received technical support from HQ and LSCs.
- At the end of the 3rd month of the project, the monitoring and evaluation strategy document has been developed.
- Two Monitoring & Follow-up Committee (MFC) meetings organized in HQ.
- The baseline survey revealed the current status of the civil society in Turkey by the end of the first quarter of the project.

Component 2: Trainings

Institutional and operational capacity of grassroots NGOs within the target group of the project have been strengthened.

Measurable indicators:

- By the end of 1st quarter training curriculum's and training modules were identified.
- By the end of the project, 8 general capacity building training activities (4 days each) were organized.
- By the end of the project, 10 tailor made training activities (2-3 days each) were organized.
- 10 Institutional Coaching Support for 10 local NGOs were provided.
- By the end of the project a total of (min) 375 NGO representatives will be participated to the trainings.

Component 3: Grant Scheme

Target group NGOs are capable to carry out their specific core tasks and thereby increasing their civil society role for the Turkish society.

Measurable indicators:

- By the end of the project, at least 35 NGOs have financially supported.
- At least 80 % of the total amount of the grant has been awarded.
- According to STGM's monitoring and evaluation reports and final reports of the projects, at least 70 % of the awarded projects have been completed.

Component 4: Dialogue

Facilitation for improved dialogue between key actors such as NGOs, state and private sector has been provided and dialogue process initiated.

Visibility and sustainability of STGM improved.

Measurable indicators:

- By the end of the project, at least 90 NGO have been participated to the 3 NGO-NGO meetings.
- Total of 32 local dialogue meetings have been organized.
- At the first half of the project at least four local NGO platforms achieved institutional capacity that enables negotiation for dialogue and participation.

- Updated strategic plans of platforms latest second half of the project.
- Established a new well structured NGO platform with a strategy document.
- By the end of the third meeting, a joint memorandum document has been compiled and submitted to presidency of Turkish National Assembly (TBMM).
- At least two NGO thematic networks have been supported.
- Supported thematic networks have been met with MP's and/or parliamentary commissions.
- 12 seminars/networking meetings (two days each) have been organized.
- By the end of the project at least 8 meetings with NGO, local authorities and municipalities.
- At least 20 visits to CSR officers of private companies through the project.
- 2 general meetings meeting with CSR officers in İstanbul
- At least two CSR seminars/meetings in Eskişehir, Adana and Denizli have been organized by the end of the project.

Component 5: Communication & PR

Improved coherence and communication between Turkish NGOs and other social actors ensured and visibility of NGO community and their activities to the Turkish society improved.

Measurable indicators:

- STGM web page visitors has increased min. 30% at the end of the project.
- By the end of the project min. 20 NGO campaigns have been supported.
- By the end of the project min. 10.000 copies of 3 books have been printed.
- 3 of the previous books (estimated 7500) have been reprinted.
- Bimonthly newsletter Siviliz will be published in Turkish and English at least 8 issues.
- By the end of the 2010, 3 days NGO festival has been organized, in İstanbul, 200 stands were opened, and approx. 5.000 people visited.
- STGM İstanbul Liaison Office has been established.

3.4 Activities:

National co- financing in the project budget will be covered by European Union Secretariat General (EUSG).

Sub-Contracts³ (covering all components) : During the project implementation following contracts will be concluded.

- Monitoring and Evaluation: M&E of main project (not for granted projects) will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).
- NGO Festival: NGO Festival will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).
- Baseline Study on Civil Society: Baseline Study on Civil Society will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).

³ All related contracts will be concluded as service contracts.

- Auditing of the project will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).
- Web management of STGM Website and of LSCs will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).
- Graphic Design works for activities will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).
- Translations will be out sourced by contracting in accordance with EC simplify procedures. (1.th quarter of the project).

The STGM shall be responsible for the implementation of all components of the project as listed below.

Component 1: Support Services For NGOs (HQ and LSCs)

- 1.1.** Developing an Implementation Plan (including a strategy and work plan). (1st half year)
- 1.2.** Improvement of Library/Documentation Centers in HQ and LSCs through subscription to local newspapers, periodicals, and purchasing books and reports on civil issues.
- 1.3.** Providing support to NGOs requesting any kind of facilitation service and/or assistance (in accordance with the target groups and predetermined NGO criteria). Providing facilitation services and assistance to NGOs upon request will include providing comments to their project proposals, arranging experts/facilitators for their conferences, seminars, workshops or networking meetings, etc. HQ and LSC staff will be responsible for providing facilitation services. In addition s/t expert will be used when necessary. (for 2 years)
- 1.4.** Continuation of support on legal matters through the web site that has already been established. S/T experts will be hired for delivering this service. (for 2 years)
- 1.5.** Monitoring and evaluation of the project (Sub contracting to another expert NGO or private company). (for 2 years)
- 1.6.** Organizing consultation meetings with the Advisory Committee (AC) and Monitoring & Follow-up Committee (MFC). Four meetings will be organized for the AC during the project with the participation of maximum 100 NGO representatives and opinion leaders for each (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th half years). In addition, two meetings will be organized for the MFC to allow the committee to observe the progress of the project (2nd and 4th half years).
- 1.7.** Organizing regular management meetings (every 4 months) with the LSC staff in the HQ or LSC offices. (for 2 years)
- 1.8.** Management and coordination of four Local NGO Centers. The project coordinator assistant at HQ will be responsible for this duty. (for 2 years)
- 1.9.** Visits by LSC staff to provinces in their coverage to meet with local NGO representatives, local administration and municipalities to sustain and enhance dialogue, identify needs for support and explore opportunities for cooperation. (for 2 years).
- 1.10.** Conducting study visits and exchanges with and to similar organizations in the EU Member States and other Candidate Countries for the STGM to benefit from lessons learned and to exchange best practices. (2nd and 3rd half years)

- 1.11. Revisiting and updating the gender mainstreaming strategy in order to promote gender equality. A gender expert will monitor STGM activities in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy and its implementation. (1st, 2nd and 3rd half years)
- 1.12. Developing an environmental mainstreaming strategy in order to incorporate environmental considerations into the activities of this project and STGM's policies and procedures. (1st and 2nd half years)
- 1.13. Developing a strategy for mainstreaming disability in order to incorporate considerations and sensitivity about disability into the activities of this project and STGM's policies and procedures. (1st and 2nd half years)
- 1.14. Conducting a baseline survey in order to determine the current status of civil society in terms of participation to decision making processes, awareness on freedom of association, extent of being organized, and impacts of supports (e.g. grants, technical assistance, etc.) to civil society. (Sub contracting to another expert NGO or private company). (1st half year)

Component 2: Trainings

- 2.1. Identification of up to date training needs and expectations of NGOs and development of an updated training strategy in the light of experiences of the previous trainings strategies and the baseline study. (1st half year).
- 2.2. Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum, written and audio-visual training materials for general capacity building trainings, (1st half years)
- 2.3. Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum for training of trainers program (1st half years). Training of Trainers program of STGM aims to increase the number and capacity of trainers whom will be employed within IC programme and TMTs of STGM. Training of Trainers program will be coordinated by HQ.
- 2.4. Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum of on the job training (1st half years). On the job training program of STGM aims to increase the capacity of STGMs staff working in LSCs and HQ.
- 2.5. Formulation of a variety of tailor made training modules in line with the changing needs and demands of target group NGOs. (for 2 years)
- 2.6. Organization of 8 general capacity building training activities (4 days each) for active local NGOs who are in STGM's target group. The content of the trainings will be determined upon the results of the baseline study. 4 of these trainings will be coordinated by HQ and 4 will be coordinated by LSCs. (for 2 years)
- 2.7. Organization of 10 tailor made training activities (2-3 days each) for local NGOs. The content of the trainings will determined upon demand and needs of local NGOs. 6 of these trainings will be coordinated by HQ and 4 will be coordinated by LSCs. (for 2 years)
- 2.8. Organization and programming of 10 Institutional Coaching Support for local NGOs. 4 of these NGOs will be supported by HQ and 6 will be supported by LSCs. (for 2 years)

S/T expert will be hired particularly for trainings and seminars. Additionally S/T experts will be hired as graphic designer, editor, translator and researcher.

The publishing of printed materials will be outsourced in accordance with the general conditions of EC grant contracts.

Component 3: Grant Scheme

This component will provide financial assistance to NGOs through small and medium scale projects of NGOs all over Turkey in accordance with the project proposals and needs of NGOs.

- 3.1.** Supporting CFCU in formulating the grant management strategy. (1st half year)
The strategy will be formulated in accordance with the previous grant schemes' results and outputs. Also, the features and conditions of other grants implemented in Turkey will be taken into consideration.
- 3.2.** Supporting CFCU in setting up guidelines and criteria. (1st and 2nd half year)
Two guidelines will be produced which will define the eligibility criteria, procedures and other conditions of the programmes. STGM will prepare the guidelines and submit to CFCU for approval.
Two types of Grants will be given to target group local NGOs in Turkey:
The first grant scheme will cover the grants (max. 40.000 EUR per project / 800.000 EUR in total) which will be given mainly to the projects of local NGOs working in the thematic areas of the project which contribute to the improvement of their technical and administrative capacity.
The second grant scheme will provide small grants (up to 10.000 EUR / 200.000 EUR in total) which will be given to grassroots NGOs to contribute their institutional building as in the case of the grant scheme implemented in the project "Supporting Civil Society Development and Dialogue in Turkey". (detailed in Annex 5)
All the eligibility criteria for the applicants and projects of both grants will be redefined in detail after the consideration of the previous projects' and grant schemes' results and the priorities and criteria of the other grant schemes implemented in Turkey.
- 3.3.** Supporting CFCU in announcement of the grants and organization of pre-grant meetings. (1st and 2nd half year)
STGM shall use all its resources to disseminate the Call for proposals throughout the country by using its own web-page, e-mail groups, e-message subscribers and platforms established in Turkey.
In addition, pre-grant information meetings will be organized by STGM.
- 3.4.** Assisting / supporting NGOs on project proposal development. (2nd half year)
Apart from the general support activities provided by STGM to NGOs, NGOs will be assisted on project proposal development and submission especially within the context of the grant schemes.
- 3.5.** Supporting CFCU in the establishment of the evaluation committee. (2nd half year)
Criteria for the members of evaluation committee will be defined with CFCU and assistance will be given to CFCU in selecting the experts for the evaluation committee.
- 3.6.** Organization of post-grant trainings and support. (3rd and 4th half years)
Depending on the number of the awarded projects, post grant trainings will be given to project owners on project implementation, reporting and financial management.
- 3.7.** Monitoring & evaluation of the projects. (3rd and 4th half years)
A monitoring strategy will be developed and awarded projects will be monitored where possible through site visits, email, telephone and other means that can be developed through internet use (intranet system, email groups etc.).

Through the grant programme, the capacity of NGOs in terms of project preparation and implementation will be increased, national, local and regional partnership among NGOs will

be established and enhanced and the role of NGOs in participatory democracy mechanisms will be strengthened. Thus, NGOs will be capable of carrying out their specific core tasks and thereby increasing their civil societal role for Turkish society.

All the activities of Component 3 will be carried out in the responsibility of Grants Manager. Grants Assistant will assist him/her in the implementation of the activities. During the implementation of grant scheme, grants manager and assistant will work in close cooperation with CFCU.

Component 4: Dialogue

4.1. NGO-NGO Meetings:

- 4.1.1.** 3 negotiation meetings that will bring together local NGOs from different thematic areas to exchange experiences, enhance dialogue and strengthen integrated approach to local problems with facilitation of a civil opinion leader.
- 4.1.2.** 8 local NGO meetings in each LSC office to exchange experiences, enhance dialogue and create cooperation opportunities at local level.

4.2. Networks

4.2.1. Supporting advocacy and lobbying activities of target group NGOs. (for 2 years)

- 4.2.1.1.** Covering the organizational costs of 2 big-scale meetings (max. 80 participants for each meeting) and 4 meetings of working groups (composed of NGO representatives, 20 participants for each working group meeting) of NGOs from the target group in their efforts to develop policies for enhancing mutual dialogue and cooperation.

4.2.2. Local Platforms: Local platforms constitute important means for local NGOs to act collectively to local problems and enables them to actively participate to decision making processes. Therefore, STGM will continue to support the existing local platforms in LSC provinces and encourage local NGOs to establish local platforms.

4.2.2.1. STGM will continue providing capacity building supports to Local Platforms specifically on policy development, advocacy, mechanisms for building dialogue.

4.2.2.2. Revision and update of existing strategic plans of Local Platforms in LSC provinces through a series of 3 meetings for each platform.

4.2.2.3. Supporting establishment of a new local platform in a province out of the coverage of the LSCs, and facilitate the process for developing a strategic plan

4.2.3. Local Platforms Meetings: STGM will bring local platforms together through a series of meetings in order to have them share experiences, best practices, and develop a joint memorandum about active participation of civil society to decision making processes.

4.2.3.1. Organizing 3 meetings in which representatives from the local NGO platforms will come together in order to discuss the existing mechanisms of civil participation to decision making processes and develop ways to improve these mechanisms.

4.2.3.2. Facilitating compilation of a joint memorandum document, which will involve the demands and suggestions of civil society to improve the dialogue with public sector and improve mechanisms of participatory democracy.

4.2.3.3. Disseminating the document to NGOs to collect opinions and comments, and compile the final version of the memorandum.

4.2.3.4. Organizing a press conference to announce the joint memorandum and to present it to the President of the National Assembly

4.2.4. Thematic Networks:

4.2.4.1. 4 seminar/networking meetings (two days each) in the service of existing NGO networks, which were established with previous projects supports such as European Women's Lobby Coordination to Turkey, Ankara Child Rights Platform, Autism Platform.

4.2.4.2. 12 seminar/networking meetings (two days each) to support establishment of one new local NGO network by each LSCs. STGM will act as a facilitator in these meetings and cover organizational/logistical costs.

4.2.4.3. 4 meetings to bring the representatives of 4 different thematic networks and Members of Parliament, who have interest in the related thematic areas, together to enhance dialogue with the legislative body and discuss about demands and suggestions.

4.3. NGO- Public Dialogue:

4.3.1. Organizing 8 meetings that will bring local NGOs, local public administration and local municipalities in order to discuss ways to enhance civil and public dialogue at local level.

4.3.2. Announcing the findings of the baseline survey on current status of civil society in Turkey in a big scale conference that will be organized in İstanbul with the participation of NGOs, foreign missions, public authorities, academicians, donors and other related parties. Also, participation of NGOs to decision making process, civil- public dialogue and the support policies to civil society will be discussed during the conference.

4.3.3. Compiling and announcing the outcomes of the conference as a declaration via a media meeting, and disseminating the document to/within NGOs, international organizations, public institutions and through STGM website.

4.4. NGO- Private Sector Dialogue:

4.4.1. General Activities:

4.4.1.1. STGM becomes a mediator to introduce NGOs and private sector (PS) to each other, and raise awareness on corporate social responsibility policies and responsibility of NGOs and civil society members on implementation of CSR projects. In this frame STGM will have at least 20 visits to CSR officers of private companies

4.4.1.2. 2 general meeting with at CSR officers to share knowledge and experience in order to increase the quality and sustainability in CSR activities.

4.4. 2. Local Activities: Two CSR seminars/meetings in Eskişehir, Adana and Denizli with the participations of NGOs and PS representations will be held in order to introduce NGOs and private sector representatives to each other. These meetings aim at constructing sustainable relationship between NGOs and PS in the frame of CSR policies.

4.4.3 Donor & Donor Meetings: STGM will facilitate regular meetings with donor institutions to know each other, needs and capacity of NGOs, and to develop tools to distribute funds on equal bases.

The public relations officer will have overall responsibility.

Component 5: Communication & PR

5.1. Establishment of a STGM Liaison Office in İstanbul

STGM's most of the major PR activities will be held in İstanbul such as NGO Festival, conference, media meetings and CSR activities. İstanbul is also a center of national media organizations and private sector. Therefore STGM will establish a PR office (in an already established NGO office or institution) in İstanbul to run all these activities in an effective way.

5.2. Maintaining and improving the website

The STGM website is composed of 1 main (HQ) and 4 sub domains (LSCs). The web site will continue to be active with an enriched version determined in accordance to the needs of NGOs.

The communication officer will be responsible for the maintenance of the website. S/t expert will be used for the updating of HQ website (for 2 years) and LSC's web pages will be updated by LSC communication officers.

5.3 Publishing awareness raising materials

Publishing awareness raising materials for two years including books, leaflets, CD and posters. In addition to that publications and other printed training materials, manuals and expert reports will be prepared and disseminated in line with the needs of local NGOs. Training materials will be produced by photocopying (in house) before the trainings.

The total number of printed books is estimated to be 10.000 (3 books/ 2500 copies for each book). The content of the books will be determined according to the needs of NGOs. 3 of the previous books will be reprinted according to NGO's demands (estimated 7500 copies). In addition to that various types of visibility materials will be produced according STGM visibility activities (banners, roll-up, invitation cards, etc.).

Bimonthly newsletter Siviliz will be published in Turkish and English for at least 8 issues with an enriched and improved version.

Communication officer will have the overall responsibility.

5.4 Supporting small-scale NGO Campaigns

Providing consultancy support to and covering the stationary costs of at least 20 NGO campaigns in 2 years.

5.5. NGO Festival:

Organization of the 2nd NGO Festival (for 3 days including weekend) with the participation of target group NGOs throughout Turkey in order to develop dialogue between NGOs and local administrations, NGOs and NGOs, NGOs and civil society (1st, 2nd and 3rd half years). The NGO festival will be a good tool to facilitate and encourage open dialogue and cooperation between public authorities and civil society actors.

The festival will take place in İstanbul. Logistical arrangements will be outsourced in accordance with the general conditions of EC grant contracts. Travel and accommodation expenses of some of the participants will be sourced by STGM not to create discrimination among NGOs which has lack of sources for participation. (Sub contracting to another expert NGO or private company)

The festival will include following events:

- Up to total 200 NGOs and local administrations will open stands, (open invitation four months ago through web site announcement, letters to e-groups, etc.)
- Conferences and presentations
- Performing arts and exhibition
- Media meetings and press conferences,

The public relations officer will have overall responsibility.

5.6. Media and Visibility Activities:

5.6.1. STGM will organize 3 meetings with senior level media representative in order to increase the visibility of STGM activities,

5.6.2. Regular visits to journalists and column writers of national and local media members individually.

5.6.3. Local media members from Eskisehir, Denizli, Adana ve Diyarbakır will be invited to STGM's Advisory Board meetings, NGO Festival in İstanbul and to other similar activities in order to increase the visibility of STGM's Local Support Centre and interest to activities of grassroots NGO.

The public relations officer will have overall responsibility.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

Not applicable

3.6 Linked activities

There are several donor agencies providing support to NGO projects according to their specific programmes. During the last five years, private companies also initiated NGO support programmes and campaigns (under the corporate sponsorship) in different fields of activities.

The “Decentralized Facility Targeted to Civil Society in Turkey” project is funded by Denmark. It supports the direct participation of NGOs and professional associations in the promotion of the role of civil society in meeting the political Copenhagen criteria.

Matra Fund (Bilateral Dutch Assistance): The “MATRA programme” in Turkey has been funded by the Government of Netherlands since the Helsinki European Council of 1999 which confirmed Turkey as an official EU member state candidate. This programme concentrates on support to the transition towards the reinforcement of good governance, democratic citizenship and civic society. To implement the Matra programme, several instruments have been developed. “Matra Small- Scale Embassy Projects Programme” (KAP) supports the establishment of small NGOs dealing with activities in the areas of legislation, good governance, environment, information, education and media. The Matra Projects Programme as “twinning” supports cooperation between Turkish NGOs and Dutch NGOs.

UNDP-GEF/SGP: The “Global Environment Facility” (GEF) has a small grant programme which provides financial and technical support (including capacity building training courses) to NGOs in environmental areas specifically on biodiversity conservation and international water bodies.

EC Activities

The "European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights" (EIDHR) was created in 1994. Approximately 100 million Euros are available annually to support human rights, democracy and conflict prevention activities worldwide, to be carried out primarily in partnership with NGOs and international organizations. The EIDHR focuses on four themes: democratization, good governance and the rule of law; abolition of the death penalty; fight against torture and impunity and for international tribunals and criminal courts; combat against racism and xenophobia and discrimination against minorities and indigenous people. In addition there is a greater concentration on certain focus countries. Turkey became a focus country in 2002, which means that the Commission sets itself the target of supporting Human Rights projects in Turkey for an average of €2 million per year, allocated both to macro-projects, presently managed by EuropeAid in Brussels, and micro-projects. These are administered locally by the Representation of the European Commission to Turkey. The yearly envelope for EIDHR micro-projects in Turkey is €600,000. The aim is to contribute to democracy by providing small-scale financial support for initiatives from grassroots non-governmental and non-profit organizations.

Technical Assistance for Improving Co-operation between the NGOs and the Public Sector and Strengthening the NGO's Democratic Participation Level (SKIP) Project was launched in October 2005. The British Council commenced work on this project providing Technical Assistance to the EUSG. The project is designed to improve cooperation between NGOs and the Public Sector both through Grants for concrete partnership projects and also through developing formal channels and procedures that will improve and increase NGO participation in planning and policy development. One of the significant expected outputs of the project is the draft Code of Conduct for NGO-Public Sector cooperation. The project is funded by the EU as part of its wider Programme of work for strengthening Civil Society in Turkey, and completed as of December 2006. The aim is to create an environment in which public sector institutions and NGOs can develop cooperation more effectively in order to strengthen the democratic participation level of civil society and the ties between the public sector and civil society.

"EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue" seeks to integrate civil society into the process of Turkey's EU accession. It aims to generate mutual knowledge and understanding between civil societies in both Turkey and EU Member States. The dialogue creates fora where mutual concerns and topics of common interest can be discussed. Further to the EU funded activities below, projects contributing to Civil Society Dialogue are also carried out on a bilateral basis between EU Member States and Turkey.

As regards the financing under IPA, in 2007, DG Enlargement launched the *Civil Society Facility* containing a harmonized and intensified strategy for the support to be given under the upcoming National and Regional Programmes. Consequently, IPA support will be provided in accordance with the Facility national and regional initiatives along the following three strands.

- National civic initiatives and capacity building of CSOs focussing on strengthening the CSOs role in the democratic process, to be implemented by EC Delegations or in the case of decentralised implementation by the beneficiary country.

- “People 2 People” Programme: Under this component programme managed by DG Enlargement directly, capacity building and networking of the civil society sector will be offered via the opportunity for CSOs operators to visit EU institutions, as well as relevant umbrella of CSOs and other European, national and international organisations in order to familiarise themselves with set of EU policies, programmes, initiatives and best practices.
- Partnership actions: to be launched at regional/horizontal level and the national level, providing grants via calls for proposals to CSOs including business organisations and social partners for dialogue, networking and transfer of knowledge in areas important for reconciliation, the stabilisation process and for European Integration.

The IPA 2008 Regional/Horizontal Issues Programme will prepare the grounds for the rolling out of the IPA Civil Society Facility in all National Programmes as concerns some countries, and at the same time it will complement the national programmes by providing multi-country co-operation and exchange opportunities. The IPA 2008 Civil Society Facility – Regional/Horizontal issues Programme will cover the following activities, with a total IPA contribution of 13.2 M€:

- **A technical assistance: through a service contract** the project will give hands-on support to CSOs of the candidate and potential candidate countries/beneficiaries. It will include: assessment of the legal environment, determination of needs and provision of necessary training opportunities and assistance to raising CSOs skills and services, dialogue between CSOs and public authorities, as well as cross border partnerships for future actions.

- **People 2 People Programme: As described above.**

- **Partnership actions: Three actions are included:** 1) A service contract to support an Environment Forum managed by DG Environment in order to raising dialogue with CSOs from the beneficiary countries and ensure that environmental CSOs from the beneficiary countries acquire the full range of necessary organisational and institutional skills in line with the EU acquis; 2) A call for proposal to select grants allowing partnerships of Beneficiaries and EU CSOs to support environment, energy efficiency, health and safety at work, and 3) A call for proposal with the same purpose in the area of fight against corruption, organised crime and trafficking. "

Macro-projects:

EuropeAid supports macro level EIDHR projects through call for proposals. Eight projects targeting Turkey were selected since 2001, in the fields of human rights promotion (3), torture prevention and rehabilitation of victims of torture (3), freedom of expression (1), and improved access to justice (1).

Regional Environmental Centre

In May 2004, the Regional Environmental Centre was officially launched to provide services to the environmental NGOs as well as municipalities primarily on EU accession issues.

3.7 Lessons learned

All related lessons learned are stated in relevant justification sections of each specific component.

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in €)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING										
			TOTAL EXP.R E	TOTAL PUBLIC EXP.R E	IPA COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION		NATIONAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION	
ACTIVITIES	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(e)	EUR (b)=(c)+(d)	EUR (c)	% (2)	Total EUR (d)=(x)+(y)+(z)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional/Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (e)	% (3)
Activity 1													
Direct Grant	X	-	2.200.000	2.200.000	2.090.000	95	110.000	5	110.000				-
Activity 2													
Grant Scheme	X	-	1.111.111	1.000.000	950.000	95.0	50.000	5.0	50.000			111,111	10
.....													-
TOTAL IB			3.311.111	3.200.000	3.040.000	91.8	160.000	4.8	160.000			111,111	
TOTAL INV													
TOTAL PROJECT			3.311.111	3.200.000	3.040.000	91.8	160.000	4.8	160.000				3.4

NOTE: DO NOT MIX IB AND INV IN THE SAME ACTIVITY ROW. USE SEPARATE ROW

Amounts net of VAT

(1) In the Activity row use "X" to identify whether IB or INV

(2) Expressed in % of the **Public** Expenditure (column (b))

(3) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Contract Completion
Direct Grant	I. Quarter 2009	III. Quarter/ 2009	III. Quarter/ 2011
Grant Scheme		II. Quarter/ 2010	III. Quarter/ 2011

Duration of the project : 20 months

There is one single direct grant agreement to be signed with the Association of Civil Society Development Centre for a budget of EUR 2.200.000. The rest of the project budget (1.111.111 M EUR) will be contracted with a number of NGO projects in the context of the grant scheme.

All projects should in principle be ready for tendering in the 1ST Quarter following the signature of the FA

6. Cross cutting issues (where applicable)

6.1 Equal Opportunity

The project shall seek to provide equal opportunities, gender equality and participation by more marginalized groups/organizations/individuals to the target groups in principle in terms of services provided such as training, seminars, grant schemes etc.

The STGM as NGO Support Centre shall also seek gender equality to the extent possible in the selection of permanent and temporary staff. In addition, measures such as having women facilitators in workshops, having an approach sensitive to gender equality while preparing posters, brochures and the web site for the project will continue to be implemented at every stage of the project.

6.2 Environment

STGM seriously consider environmentally sensitive programmes and activities during the project implementation phase. A strategy to for environmental sensitive implementation of the activities will be prepared in project.

6.3 Minority and vulnerable groups

STGM will prepare a strategy for disability mainstreaming. This strategy paper will guide all STGM activities as disability sensitive.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Log frame in Standard Format

Annex II: Amounts contracted and Disbursed per Quarter over the full duration of Programme

Annex III: Institutional Framework

Annex IV: Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

Annex V: Details per EU funded contract (*) where applicable

ANNEX 1 – LOGFRAME			
LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX For Project Fiche	<u>IPA decentralized National programmes</u> TR080108- Civil Society Facility-Civil Society Development for Active Participation		
	Contracting period expires: 2 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement	Disbursement period expires: 3 years following the end date for contracting	
	Total budget: 3.311.111 EUR	IPA budget: 3.040.000 M EUR	
Overall objective	Objectively verifiable indicators	Source of Verification	Assumptions
Enhance participatory democracy through strengthened NGOs	Increased number of quality NGOs with better participation with the public and increased dialogue with counterparts, institutions and the public	EC regular report	sustainability of funding
Project purpose: To strengthen institutional capacity of target group NGOs to encourage civil participation to decision making processes at local and national levels and enhance dialogue between state, NGOs and private sector.	By the end of the project, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least four local NGO platforms have been well structured and improved their institutional capacity and their umbrella platform were established. At least 375 NGO representatives have been 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular reports Monitoring Reports Baseline study report. Position papers of NGO networks. Media coverage. 	Ownership and support by local NGOs

	<p>trained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue mechanisms and platforms between MPs and NGOs have been established. • € 1 M was distributed to min. of 35 projects as small scale grants to NGOs. • STGM services successfully decentralized through local support centres. • Capacity, basic needs, awareness level of Turkish NGOs on freedom of association were identified. 		
Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Source of Verification	Assumptions
<p>Component I: Technical Assistance The services provided by STGM HQs and Local Support Centres are further improved in quantity and quality and continued regularly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 6 months at least 10 NGOs received legal support from STGM. • Every 6 months Advisory Committee meetings organized with the participation of maximum 100 NGO representatives. • At the end of the project, 100 books, 50 CD/DVDs and 25 subscriptions was 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation plan • Revised gender mainstreaming strategy • Environmental mainstreaming strategy • Strategy for mainstreaming disability • Baseline survey report • Library and documentation center database • Expert reports on legal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request from NGOs on legal advice • Request from NGOs on technical support • Availability of a qualified subcontractor for M&E and contract signed on time • Availability of a qualified subcontractor for baseline study contract signed on time

	<p>purchased for HQ and LSCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of the project, 400 NGOs received technical support from HQ and LSCs. • At the end of the 3rd month of the project, the monitoring and evaluation strategy document has been developed. • Two Monitoring & Follow-up Committee (MFC) meetings organized in HQ. • The baseline survey revealed the current status of the civil society in Turkey by the end of the first quarter of the project. 	<p>support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC and MFC participant lists and meeting minutes • Mission reports 	
<p>Component II: Training Institutional and operational capacity of NGOs within the target group of the project strengthened.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of 1st quarter training curriculum's and training modules were identified. • By the end of the project, 8 general capacity building training activities (4 days each) were organized. • By the end of the project, 10 tailor made training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training strategy • Participant lists • Photographs from trainings • Expert reports • Training modules • ToR & contracts of trainers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand of targeted NGOs • Availability of well qualified trainers

	<p>activities (2-3 days each) were organized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Institutional Coaching Support for 10 local NGOs were provided. • By the end of the project a total of (min) 375 NGO representatives will be participated to the trainings. 		
<p>Component III: Grant Scheme : Targeted NGOs are capable to carry out their specific core tasks and thereby increasing their civil society role for the Turkish society.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of the project, at least 35 NGOs have financially supported. • At least 80 % of the total amount of the grant has been awarded. • According to STGM's monitoring and evaluation reports and final reports of the projects, at least 70 % of the awarded projects have been successfully completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project contracts • Final reports of the projects • STGM's monitoring reports of the awarded projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation of NGOs • Arranging encouraged and skilful experts for project evaluation.

<p>Component IV: Dialogue (Advocacy & Lobby)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitation For better dialogue between key actors such as NGOs, state and private sector has been provided and dialogue process initiated. • Visibility and sustainability of STGM improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of the project, at least 90 NGO have been participated to the 3 NGO-NGO meetings. • Total of 32 local dialogue meetings have been organised. • At the first half of the project at least four local NGO platforms achieved institutional capacity that enables negotiation for dialogue and participation. • Updated strategic plans of platforms latest second half of the project. • Established a new well structured NGO platform with a strategy document. • By the end of the third meeting, a joint memorandum document has been compiled and submitted to presidency of Turkish National Assembly (TBMM). • At least two NGO thematic networks have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and evaluation reports. • Media reports. • Participant lists • Joint memorandum • Declaration of conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation of NGOs. • Positive attitude from public sector for dialogue.

	<p>been supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported thematic networks have been met with MP's and/or parliamentary commissions. • 12 seminars/networking meetings (two days each) at local level have been organised. • By the end of the project at least 8 meetings with NGO, local authorities and municipalities. • At least 20 visits to CSR officers of private companies through the project. • 2 general meetings meeting with CSR officers in İstanbul • At least two CSR seminars/meetings in Eskişehir, Adana and Denizli have been organized by the end of the project. 		
<p>Component V: Communication and PR Improved coherence and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STGM web page visitors has increased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert reports • Web statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand from target group NGOs for

<p>communication between Turkish NGOs and other social actors ensured and visibility of NGO community and their activities to the Turkish society improved. Increased in visibility of STGM and positive image of EU</p>	<p>min. 30% at the end of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of the project min. 20 NGO campaigns have been supported. • By the end of the project min. 10.000 copies of 3 books have been printed. • 3 of the previous books (estimated 7500) have been reprinted. • Bimonthly newsletter Siviliz will be published in Turkish and English at least 8 issues. • By the end of the 2010, 3 days NGO festival has been organized, in İstanbul, 200 stands were opened, and approx. 5.000 people visited. • STGM İstanbul Liaison Office has been established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting minutes • Campaign materials and reports • Press clips • Printed materials 	<p>campaign support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation from media and NGOs to festival
<p>Activities</p>	<p>Means:</p>	<p>Costs:</p>	
<p>Component I. Technical</p>	<p>Direct Grant</p>	<p>2.200.000 Euro</p>	

Assistance	Grant Scheme	1.111.111 Euro	
Activities			
1.1. Developing an Implementation Plan			
1.2. Improvement of Library/documentation centers in HQ and LSCs			
1.3. Technical support to NGOs			
1.4. Support on legal matters			
1.5. Monitoring and evaluation of the project			
1.6. Organizing Advisory Committee (AC) and Monitoring & Follow-up Committee (MFC).			
1.7. Organizing regular management meetings (every 4 months) with the LSC staff in the HQ or LSC offices. (for 2 years)			
1.8. Management and coordination of four Local Support Centers.			
1.9. Visits by LSC staff to provinces			
1.10. Conducting study visits and exchanges with and to similar organizations in the EU Member States and other Candidate Countries			
1.11. Revisiting and updating the			

<p>gender mainstreaming strategy</p> <p>1.12. Developing an environmental mainstreaming strategy</p> <p>1.13. Developing a strategy for mainstreaming disability</p> <p>1.14 . Conducting a baseline survey</p>			
<p>Component II. Training</p> <p>2.1.Identification of up to date training needs and expectations of NGOs and development of an updated training strategy</p> <p>2.2.Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum, written and audio-visual training materials for general capacity building trainings, (1st half years)</p> <p>2.3.Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum for training of trainers program (1st half years).</p> <p>2.4.Identification of training topics and development of a curriculum of on the job training (1st half years).</p>			

<p>2.5.Formulation of a variety of tailor made training modules, (for 2 years)</p> <p>2.6.Organization of 8 general capacity building training activities (4 days each) for active local NGOs who are in STGM’s target group. The content of the trainings will determined upon results of baseline study. 4 of these trainings will be coordinated by HQ and 4 will be coordinated by LSCs. (for 2 years)</p> <p>2.7.Organization of 10 tailor made training activities (2-3 days each) for local NGOs. The content of the trainings will determined upon demand and needs of local NGOs. 6 of these trainings will be coordinated by HQ and 4 will be coordinated by LSCs. (for 2 years)</p> <p>2.8.Organization and programming of 10 Institutional Coaching Support for local NGOs. 4 of these NGOs will be supported by HQ and 6 will be coordinated by LSCs. (for 2 years)</p>			
<p>Component III : Grant Scheme</p>			

<p>3.1 Supporting CFCU in formulating the grant management strategy.</p> <p>3.2.Supporting CFCU in setting up guidelines and criteria.</p> <p>3.3.Supporting CFCU in announcement of the grants and organization of pre-grant meetings.</p> <p>3.4.Assisting / supporting NGOs on project proposal development.</p> <p>3.5.Supporting CFCU in the establishment of the evaluation committee.</p> <p>3.6.Organization of post-grant trainings and support.</p> <p>3.7.Monitoring & evaluation of the projects.</p>			
<p>Component IV. Dialogue (Advocacy &Lobby)</p> <p>4.1 NGO-NGO Meetings:</p> <p>2.1.3 negotiation meetings that will bring together local NGOs from different thematic areas</p> <p>2.2.8 local NGO meetings in each LSC office.</p> <p>4.2. Networks</p>			

<p>4.2.1. Supporting advocacy and lobbying activities of target group NGOs.</p> <p>4.2.1.1. Covering the organizational costs of 4 big-scale meetings (max. 80 participants for each meeting) and 8 meetings of working groups.</p> <p>4.2.2. Local Platforms :</p> <p>4.2.2.1. Supports to Local Platforms specifically on policy development, advocacy, and mechanisms for building dialogue.</p> <p>4.2.2.2. Revision and update of existing strategic plans of Local Platforms in LSC provinces through a series of 3 meetings for each platform.</p> <p>4.2.2.3. Supporting establishment of a new local platform in a province out of the coverage of the LSCs, and facilitate the process for developing a strategic plan.</p> <p>4.2.3. Local Platforms Meetings:</p> <p>4.2.3.1. Organizing 3 local platforms meetings.</p>			
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<p>4.2.3.2. Facilitating compilation of a joint memorandum document,</p> <p>4.2.3.3. Disseminating the document to NGOs to collect opinions and comments, and compile the final version of the memorandum.</p> <p>4.2.3.4. Organizing a press conference to announce the joint memorandum and to present it to the President of the National Assembly</p> <p>4.2.4. Thematic Networks:</p> <p>4.2.4.1. 4 seminar/networking meetings (two days each) in the service of existing NGO networks.</p> <p>4.2.4.2. Organizing 12 Seminar / networking meetings at local level.</p> <p>4.2.4.3. 4 meetings to bring the representatives of 4 different thematic networks and Members of Parliament.</p> <p>4.3. NGO- Public Dialogue:</p> <p>4.3.1. Organizing NGOs, local public administration and local municipalities meetings.</p>			
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<p>4.3.2. Organizing a conference to announce the findings of the baseline survey.</p> <p>4.3.3. Organizing a media meeting to announce the outcomes of the conference.</p> <p>4.4. NGO- Private Sector Dialogue:</p> <p>4.4.1 General Activities:</p> <p>4.4.1.1 Visits to CSR officers of private companies.</p> <p>4.4.1.2. Meetings with CSR officers of private companies.</p> <p>4.4.2. Local Activities: To organize CSR seminars</p> <p>4.4.3. Donor & Donor Meetings:</p> <p>facilitate regular meetings with donor institutions</p>			
<p>Component V. Communication:</p> <p>5.1. Establishing a STGM Liaison Office in Istanbul</p> <p>5.2. Maintaining and sustaining the website</p>			

<p>5.3 Publishing awareness raising materials for two years including books, leaflets, CD and posters.</p> <p>5.4 Supporting NGO Campaigns</p> <p>5.5. Organization of the 2ndNGO Festival</p> <p>5.6. Media and Visibility Activities:</p> <p>5.6.1. 3 meetings with senior level media representatives.</p> <p>5.6.2. Regular visits to journalists and column writers.</p> <p>5.6.3. Inviting local media members from Eskisehir, Denizli, Adana, Diyarbakır will be invited to STGM activities.</p>			
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