

Standard Summary Project Fiche – IPA decentralised National Programmes

1. Basic Information

1.1 **CRIS Number:** TR080301

1.2 **Title:** Civil Society Facility - Parliamentary Exchange and Dialogue

1.3 **Sector:** 35- Civil Society

1.4 **Location:** Turkey (with some activities in the EU)

Implementation Arrangements

1.5 Implementing Agency

The CFCU will be the 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.

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The total duration of the project will be 24 months. (Annex 3 for the implementation arrangements.)

1.6 Beneficiary (including details of SPO)

The beneficiaries of the project will be Grand National Assembly of Turkey. A Steering Committee (SC) will be composed of Chairman of the EU Harmonization Commission, Secretary General of GNAT, Director of Foreign Affairs and Protocol, Director of Laws and Resolution of TGNA, Deputy Director of the Foreign Relations and Protocol responsible for the EU Affairs Unit of TGNA as well as representatives of EP and EU Member States Parliaments.

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1.7 Overall cost: 2,500,000 Euro

1.8 EU Contribution: 2,250,000 Euro

1.9 Final Date for contracting: 2 years after the signatures 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 disbursement : 3 years following the end date for contracting.

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objectives:

To maximize the role of Grand National Assembly of Turkey in the process of EU membership negotiations by promoting the dialogue between parliamentarians as well as political parties represented in the parliament of the Member States and Turkey.

2.2 Project purpose:

A better knowledge and understanding between Turkey and the European Union, thus allowing for a better awareness of the opportunities and challenges of Turkey's accession to the EU.

2.3 Link with AP/ NPAA/EP/SAA

All laws and regulations enacted by the Turkish Parliament regarding the alignment of the EU *acquis communautaire* are closely related to the Accession Partnership priorities the final aim of which is Turkey's membership to the EU. It is emphasized in the Accession Partnership of 2005 that open communication and cooperation between all sectors of Turkish civil society and European partners are facilitated and encouraged.

2.4 Link with MIPD

One of the aims of IPA assistance to Turkey for 2007-2009 is to promote an EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue. Therefore MIPD identifies the relevant priorities and actions required to address this objective of the pre-accession strategies. It is mentioned in MIPD that actions undertaken in the frame of IPA can assist Turkey in addressing challenges during the pre-accession phase. They include the adoption of the *acquis communautaire*; counteracting the negative perceptions of Turkish membership of the EU in certain segments of EU public opinion and reciprocally negative perceptions of the EU in certain segments of Turkish public opinion.

2.5 Link with National Development Plan

Not Applicable

2.6 Link with national/sectoral investment plan

Not Applicable

3. Description of Project

3.1 Background and justification:

With reference to the EU Commission document dated June 29, 2005 (Com-3005/290) namely "Civil Society Dialogue between the EU and Candidate Countries", Civil Society Dialogue is of importance in Turkey-EU relations. In that document special attention was given to the parliamentary relations in Civil Society Dialogue between Turkey and the EU.

Active commitment to interplay between civil society and parliaments is a long-term political investment that will contribute to ensuring peace, justice and prosperity, increase civic participation, and enhance the effectiveness of representative institutions and the legitimacy of governments.

In the course of progress towards accession to the European Union, Turkey is actively following a National Programme for the adoption of the *acquis communautaire*. The objective of the alignment of Turkish legislation is not only to implement the relevant amendments to existing legislation but also to increase the efficiency of GNAT by promoting the civil society dialogue.

Civil society will have an important role to play in the implementation of projects related to the Copenhagen political criteria. It is also an essential element of the EU- Turkey Civil Society Dialogue.

Regarding the Civil Society Dialogue, the state of mutual knowledge is particularly weak with regard to Turkey and misconceptions and concerns more widespread than in the case of other candidate and accession countries. Although there is at present a broad consensus in Turkey in favor of EU membership, there are indications that support is declining.

This project within the promotion of the Civil Society Dialogue through parliaments is the first one in the GNAT to be focused on political dialogue, will target political groups and organizations that are interested and influential in the process of Turkey's integration. This includes members of parliaments, political parties represented in GNAT including youth and women branches as well as related NGOs and support Youth in Action Programme aims to develop a sense of civic participation and active involvement at local, national and European level among young people. It is expected that the contacts that will be facilitated under the project will help counteract the negative perceptions of the Turkish EU-accession process that exists in certain segments of public opinion.

Cooperation through symposiums and conferences aims bringing politicians in different EU countries closer in order to bridge the information gap and achieve better mutual knowledge. Bilateral exchange contacts among members of parliaments, political parties including youth and women branches represented in their parliaments and related staff with the 2 months duration in different EU National Parliaments and the GNAT strengthens political and cultural dialogue between Turkey and EU Member States. 6 Symposia will address issues on respectively gender issues, youth and politics, terrorism, good governance, migrants and tolerance. 3 dialogue fora on long-term sustainable cooperation and promotion of dialogue between local politicians target to ensure a stronger awareness of the opportunities and challenges of Turkey's accession to the EU.

Visitor programmes to EU institutions and national parliaments for exchanging experiences, know-how and good practices between Beneficiary countries and the EU civil society organizations, and particularly for party groups with influence over decision-making and society, such as young and women politicians, should be coordinated in order to better meet the needs of the region, support to civil society development and dialogue.

Civil Society Facility – Horizontal activities (Regional and Multi-beneficiary level) will provide support to CSOs in the beneficiary countries and territories through People 2 People visit programmes to stimulate civic participation in the region by offering individuals and CSOs the possibility of participating in short-term visits to EU institutions and national parliaments, becoming familiar with a number of key EU policies and legislation and creating the opportunity for CSOs to interact network and significantly influence public policy.

Activities carried out in multilateral partnership between civil society groups in the Beneficiary countries and the EU leading to a transfer of knowledge and networks, as well as transnational innovative projects.

For ongoing project started on November 2007 and will be lasted November 2008, lack of well-trained, efficient and competent staff working in the committees and related departments of the GNAT at each stage of the legislative process and poor quality of the legislation enacted for the harmonization with the EU acquis were the baseline situation. Main activities

are composed of training seminars on EU Committees and control over the government, the role of the standing committees and parliamentary scrutiny and monitoring committees, the role of the standing committees in the transposition of EU law, the structure of the parliament, parliamentary administration and organization of the plenary sitting, research department and library services of the member states, legislation systems- best practices and 4-days study visits to 7 EU Member States.

That project aimed mainly at strengthening the capacity of the GNAT whereas the proposed project concentrates on generating better mutual understanding between citizens of Turkey and the EU as well as aims to ensure a stronger awareness of the opportunities and challenges of Turkey's accession to the EU. The project based on dialogue aims to make Turkey better known within the EU and offers EU citizens an opportunity to experience the historical links, traditions and cultural diversity in Turkey. At the same time, it gives Turkish citizens the chance to learn more about the EU, its values and policies.

In Ongoing project the delegation to study visits are composed of MPs and related staff and the program for 3 days are mainly focused on the political and administrative structure of the MS Parliaments. They do not target the dialogue. The EU and Turkey must work harder to better explain the positive effects and benefits of Turkey's accession in order to ensure that common policies receive wide public support. 2 months exchange and internship both in Turkey and EU Member States ensures the opportunity to know each other and reduces prejudices which will be good beginning for spreading of these micro results to the larger public.

"Yeni Yildiz" which has been publicizing of the activities of the GNAT on EU to public for 2 years will be continued by this project and its delivery list will be extended from members of parliament and state institutions to NGOs and local governments.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact

Project will target members of the Parliaments but most importantly political parties including women and youth branches. Better informed Turkish Public, structured co-operation between GNAT and other EU parliaments and the European parliament, which will provide better understandings of the Turkish position in these countries, are some of the expected impacts. More importantly, the project will include direct dialogue opportunities such as summer camps and local meetings between European national and local parliamentarians and Turkish counterparts in order to increase the consciousness of civil society in terms of Turkey's accession process to the European Union that concerns civil society as much as government. Exchange visits to be organized among national parliaments of Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, neighboring countries, and Turkey will have cross border effect in order to improve the relations in terms of cultural and political dialogue.

3.3 Results and Measurable indicators

Result and measurable indicators in relation with activity 1

A shared experiences and information directly on common issues faced in EU and Turkish MPs, NGOs and Political Party representatives to raise awareness in both sides.

Regular report

Final report of the project

Result and measurable indicators in relation with activity 2

Build up local civil society dialogue between Turkey and the EU through improving contacts and dialogue between local politicians.

Regular report

Final report of the project

Result and measurable indicators in relation with activity 3

Strengthened mutual understandings between Turkey and the EU through improving inter-parliamentary contacts and contacts between political parties represented in their parliaments.

Regular report

Final report of the project

Result and measurable indicators in relation with activity 4

Established direct mechanisms among youth and women representatives of political parties in order to share experiences on better structured and well informed political channels for powerful civil society participation in the political life.

Regular report

Final report of the project

Result and measurable indicators in relation with activity 5

Raised visibility of the activities of the GNAT on EU and civil society issues.

8 magazines

3.4 Activities (including means)

Means

Service Contract 1

Source of the National Public Contribution is made within the annual budget of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

Foreseen indicative activities are as follows:

3.4.1 Thematic Symposium

Location	MS and Turkey
Indicative number	6 (3 in MS, 3 in Turkey) with 2 working days each
Participants	Total of 80 participants including MPs from EP, MS Parliaments (as host parliament), NGOs, and GNAT, NGOs and Political Party Representatives within the Parliaments, based on the fair representation of the political parties according to their seats in the parliaments in regard with gender equality.
Subjects	Participation is not only limited to EU related bodies/persons/MPs etc. : Gender equality, youth and politics, terrorism, Good Governance (e.g. the Venice Commission Guidelines on Prohibition and Dissolution of Political Parties etc.), migrants, tolérance issues
Means	
Service Contract 1	

3.4.2 Dialogue Fora

Location	: Different provinces of Turkey
Indicative number	: 3 with 2 working days each
Participants	: Local politicians and NGOs from Turkey and MS (150 persons by the end of the project)
Subjects	: Exchange of experiences of MS during the accession period
Means	
Service Contract 1	

3.4.3 Exchange and Internship

Location	EP, MS, Turkey
Indicative number	27 with one month each
Participants	54 Women and youth branches of Turkish and EU Political parties based on the fair representation of the political parties according to their seats in the parliaments in regard with gender equality, as well as staff of GNAT and MS.
Subjects	Better knowledge and understanding of the functioning of the parliaments
Means	
Service Contract 1	

3.4.4 Inter-Parliamentary Summer Camps Conferences

Location	: Turkey (İstanbul, İzmir)
Indicative Number	: 2 with 2 days each
Participants	: 120 Youth and women members of Political Parties in the GNAT, MS and EP (20 from Turkey and 100 from MS/EP)

based on the fair representation of the political parties according to their seats in the parliaments in regard with gender equality

Participation is not only limited to EU related bodies/persons/MPs etc.

Subjects : Youth and women participation in the political life, exchange of the experiences

Means
Service Contract 1

3.4.5 Issuing and dissemination magazine

Location	Turkey
Indicative number	8 in Quarterly basis (to be distributed among MPs, members of political parties represented in the parliament, Journalists, NGOs)
Subjects	Activities of the GNAT on EU matters, EU policies and EU accession process to be disseminated through a bilingual magazine to be distributed to EU partners.

Nevertheless, the project shall be better promoted in Turkey and in the EU. Other promotion means shall be envisaged (TV/radio etc.) and shall target also EU MS audience.

Technical assistance for Activities 1,2,3,4,5

TA team will search the MPs, NGOs and political parties' representatives in MS parliaments who are involved in gender equality, youth and politics, terrorism, good governance, migrants, tolerance issues as well as having experience on accession period for presenting to Steering Committee. TA will help the Steering Committee to organize symposiums, dialogue fora, exchange /internship and summer camps. TA will collect documents, articles, news for the Magazines, edit them and present them to the Steering Committee before publication. The TA Team will take charge in the publication and dissemination process of all about mentioned PR tools. The mentioned tasks are only parts of the tasks the TA contractor would be expected to exercise (e.g. 'among others') in order to ensure the necessary degree of flexibility.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing

Not applicable

3.6 Linked Activities:

One of the two projects to support the EU Harmonization Commission during Turkey's Accession Negotiations with the EU was launched in 27-28 June 2006 by the British and Turkish NGO initiatives and is being implemented by the London Information Network on Conflicts and State-Building (LINKS) in cooperation with the Turkish Democracy Foundation. Funding is being secured from the UK Government through Global Opportunities

Fund of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (£ 181,390). The project duration is 2 years, from April 2006 to March 2008.

Another project regarding strengthening the Capacity of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, which is proposed under the 2006 Programming of Turkey-EU Financial Assistance, is launched November 13, 2007 with the 1 year duration and amounts to 1,042,100 €.

Main target groups of above mentioned projects are members of the parliament, permanent staff of GNAT including EU Harmonization Commission, NGOs, media and local government. Moreover, unlike former project the latter aims at strengthening the capacity of the Office for the EU Affairs to EU Harmonization Commission and the standing Commissions.

Civil Society Facility – Horizontal activities (Regional and Multi-beneficiary level) will provide support to CSOs in the beneficiary countries and territories through People 2 People visit programmes to stimulate civic participation in the region by offering individuals and CSOs the possibility of participating in short-term visits to EU institutions and national parliaments, becoming familiar with a number of key EU policies and legislation and creating the opportunity for CSOs to interact network and significantly influence public policy.

3.7 Lessons learned:

The project by the London Information Network on Conflicts and State-Building (LINKS) in cooperation with the Turkish Democracy Foundation aimed to provide assistance to GNAT and its members as they embark on the task to ensure that the momentum for negotiations is maintained and to lead for the Turkish people on this the most ambitious challenge facing Turkey over next years, was launched in April 2006. Two seminars regarding parliamentarian role into the accession process and more cooperation towards full membership and one study visit to London were held in 2006 by the participant member of parliament from GNAT and EU States' Parliaments, NGOs related with EU, Academicians and Media representatives. Magazines called "Yeni Yıldız (New Star) regarding activities of GNAT on EU has been releasing since last April in monthly period.

The outcomes of the project so far is better informed and motivated members of the Grand National Assembly which is becoming a catalyst for public engagement with the European Union project as a result of which there will also be a better informed Turkish public.

On the other hand the cooperation of the GNAT with NGOs has not improved sufficiently and their involvement into the legislative process is not on the level desired. The creation of a system which involves as many stakeholders to the decision making as possible in order to ensure the best results and highest quality in legislation should be facilitated.

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING										
			TOTAL EXP.RE	TOTAL PUBLIC EXP.RE	IPA COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION		NATIONAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION	
ACTIVITIES	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)	EUR	EUR (b)	% (2)	Total EUR (c)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional/ Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (e)	% (3)
Activity 1,2,3,4,5													
Service contract	-	-	2,500,000		2,250,000	90	250,000	10	250,000				-
.....													
TOTAL IB			2,500,000		2,250,000	90	250,000	10	250,000				
TOTAL INV													
TOTAL PROJECT			2,500,000		2,250,000	90	250,000	10	250,000				

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))

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(*) contributions from National, Regional, Local, Municipal authorities, FIs loans to public entities, funds from public enterprises (**) private funds, FIs loans to private entities

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

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Contract Completion
Service Contract (Task 1)	Q1 2009	Q1 2010	Q4 2012
Service Contract (Task 2)	Q1 2009	Q1 2010	Q4 2012
Service Contract (Task 3)	Q1 2009	Q1 2010	Q4 2012
Service Contract (Task 4)	Q1 2009	Q1 2010	Q4 2012
Service Contract (task 5)	Q1 2009	Q1 2010	Q4 2012

The contract completion is understood to be final date for final disbursement under the contract. The duration of the project activities will be 24 months.

The end date of the contract shall be 2 years after the signature of the contracts.

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

Equal participation of women and men will be secured through appropriate information and publicity material, in the design of projects and access to the opportunities they offer. An appropriate men/women balance will be sought on all the managing bodies and activities of the programme and its projects. Some of the activities specially target female politicians.

6.2 Environment

Not Applicable

6.3 Minority and vulnerable groups

According to the Turkish Constitutional System, the word minorities encompass only groups of persons defined and recognized as such on the basis of multilateral or bilateral instruments to which Turkey is a party. This project has no negative impact on minorities or vulnerable groups. Handicapped people will be protected, the necessary instruments will be used to enable their participation (wheelchairs, park spaces, lifts and restrooms designed specially for handicapped individuals will be taken under consideration for all activities) and activities will be organized in handicapped-friendly premises as much as possible.

Conditionality

Co-financing should be guaranteed.

ANNEXES

- 1- Logframe in Standard Format
- 2- Amounts contracted and Disbursed per Quarter over the full duration of Programme
- 3- Institutional framework
- 4 - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

Annex 1: Logframe for Phare or Turkey pre-accession scheme projects

Annex 1	Programme name and number		
LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Parliamentary Exchange and Dialogue	Contracting period expires: 2 years after the signatures of the Financing Agreement	Disbursement period expires: 3 years following the end date for contracting	
	Total Budget: 2.500.000 Euro	EU contribution: 2.250.000Euro	
Overall objectives	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
To maximize the role of Grand National Assembly of Turkey in the process of EU membership negotiations by promoting the dialogue between parliamentarians as well as political parties represented in the parliament of the Member States and Turkey.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cooperation of the GNAT, EP and EU National Parliaments in terms of enhancing interaction between beneficiary and MS is improved and increased. • The citizens are directly informed about the EU accession process and major related events and milestones through the magazine called “Yeni Yıldız” to be published. • More active GNAT on civil society issues and a leader in the public debate are ensured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular reports • Media news • GNAT web-links 	
Project purpose	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
A better knowledge and understanding between Turkey and the European Union, thus allowing for a better awareness of the opportunities and challenges of Turkey’s accession to the EU.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue between EU States Parliaments and GNAT on civil society is enhanced. • Direct correspondence between MS parliaments’ and GNAT as well as political parties represented in the parliaments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Reports • Media reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All related official organizations and NGOs will be active partners and work to implement the project.

	are ensured.		
Results	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
<p>A shared experiences and information directly on common issues faced in EU and Turkish MPs, NGOs and Political Party representatives to raise awareness in both sides.</p> <p>Build up local civil society dialogue between Turkey and the EU through improving contacts and dialogue between local politicians.</p> <p>Strengthened mutual understandings between Turkey and the EU through improving inter-parliamentary contacts and contacts between political parties represented in their parliaments.</p> <p>Established direct mechanisms among youth and women representatives of political parties in order to share experiences on better structured and well informed political channels for powerful civil society participation in the political life.</p>	<p>6 Thematic symposiums are completed</p> <p>3 Dialogue Fora are completed.</p> <p>Exchange and internship program between, EP, EU National Parliaments of 27 countries and Turkey with the duration of 2 months are completed.</p> <p>2 Inter-Parliamentary Summer Camps Conferences are completed.</p> <p>8 Magazines are issued.</p>	<p>Report on Proceeding</p> <p>Press Report</p> <p>List of participants</p> <p>8 Magazines</p>	

<p>Raised visibility of the activities of the GNAT on EU and civil society issues.</p>			
Activities	Means	Costs	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Thematic symposiums on gender equality, youth and politics, terrorism, good governance, migrants, tolerance issues – 3 in MS, 3 in Turkey each in every four months, with the participation of MPs from MS Countries (as sponsors to organize symposiums in their parliaments), NGOs and Political Party Representatives within the Parliaments. • 3 Dialogue Fora between local politicians and NGOs from Turkey and MS in three provinces of Turkey each in every six months, in order to exchange experiences of MS during the accession period. • Exchange and internship program between, EP, EU National Parliaments of 27 countries and Turkey with the duration of 2 months. (Exchanges will be between women and youth branches of Turkish and EU Political parties as well as Parliament staff) 	<p>There will be only one Service Contract for all five tasks</p> <p>Task 1</p> <p>Task 2</p> <p>Task 3</p> <p>Task 4</p> <p>Task 5</p>	<p>700.000 €</p> <p>650.000 €</p> <p>650.000 €</p> <p>450.000 €</p> <p>50.000 €</p>	<p>Full commitment of the involved authorities</p>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Inter-Parliamentary Summer Camps Conferences on youth and women branches participation of Political Parties to be held in major cities like İstanbul and İzmir with the participation of women members and youth members of the political parties in the GNAT and from MS/EP (20 from Turkey and 100 from MS/EP)• Issue and dissemination of 8 magazines in Quarterly basis regarding activities of GNAT in terms of EU matters EU policies and EU accession process | | | |
|--|--|--|--|