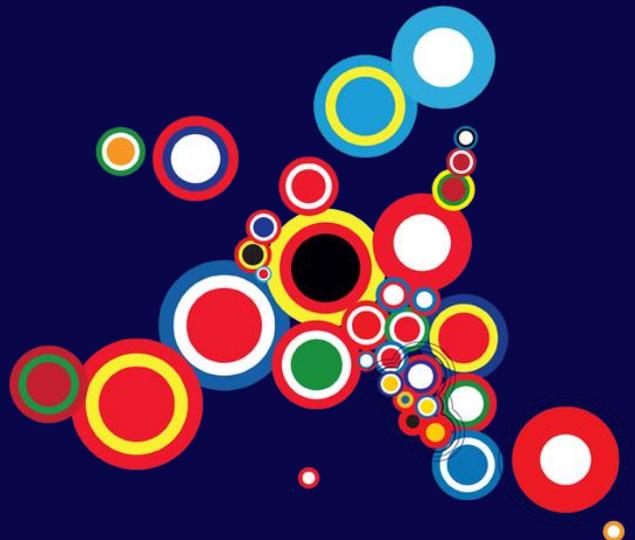




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

TURKEY

Civil Society



Action summary

The Action aims at supporting the development of civil society for more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes; promotion of a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue; enhancement of civil society dialogue and inter-cultural exchange between civil societies in Turkey and Europe.

To this end, the Action includes various interventions that will further develop the enabling environment for active citizenship and civil society capacity development; to strengthen cooperation between public sector and CSOs and to strengthen the capacities of CSO through capacity building, networking and civil society dialogue both at national and European level.

Action Identification	
Action Programme Title	Annual Action Programme for Turkey (2016)
Action Title	Civil Society
Action ID	IPA 2016/039-354/3//Turkey/Civil Society
Sector Information	
IPA II Sector	<i>1. Democracy and governance Sub-sector Civil Society</i>
DAC Sector	15150 - Democratic participation and civil society
Budget	
Total cost	16 500 000 EUR
EU contribution	15 250 000 EUR
Budget line(s)	BGUE-B2016-22.020301-C1-NEAR
Management and Implementation	
Management mode	Indirect management
<i>Indirect management:</i> National authority or other entrusted entity	<i>Central Finance and Contracts Unit Ms. Emine Döğer Acting PAO-CFCU Director Eskişehir Yolu 4. km 2180 Cad. No: 63 C-Blok 06510 Söğütözü - Ankara / TURKEY</i>
Implementation responsibilities	<i>Ministry for EU Affairs Project Implementation Directorate Bülent ÖZCAN Director Eskişehir Yolu 9.km TOBB İkiz kuleleri D Blok 25. Kat 06800 Bilkent Çankaya Ankara Ministry of Culture and Tourism Directorate of Foreign Affairs and EU Coordination Director Sedat GÖNÜLLÜOĞLU</i>
Location	
Zone benefiting from the action	Turkey
Specific implementation area(s)	N/A
Timeline	
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	At the latest by 31 December 2017
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management	At the latest by 31 December 2017

Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 189(2) of the Financial Regulation		
Final date for operational implementation	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement		
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-committed and closed)	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement		
Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)			
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Aid to environment	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Development	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Biological diversity	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat desertification	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

For the existence of a vibrant and active civil society, an enabling legal, political and social environment is necessary. In Turkey, several legal reforms have been made in 2004, 2008 and 2011 on the Civil Code, Law on Associations and Law on Foundations. However, further reforms and progress are necessary to enhance the enabling environment as a precondition for a vibrant and active civil society in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

Civil society organisations (CSOs) are key actors in expressing the demands of citizens and encouraging active citizenship. In order to fulfil this potential, some areas still need to be improved. CSOs in Turkey need further attempts and diversified mechanisms for their capacity development. According to the research findings of the survey on reputation of CSOs conducted within the framework of an on-going project entitled “Strengthening Civil Society Development in Turkey and Civil Society-Public Sector Cooperation in Turkey” (TR11/0135.07), CSOs lack necessary administrative, human resources, financial and know-how capacity to enable them to establish effective and productive dialogue channels with the public.

Research findings of a Needs Assessment Report of Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organisations (TACSO) also mentioned that Resources (human and financial) are voiced as the major problems of CSOs. The number of members, volunteers, and specifically active volunteers is very low. The majority of the CSOs do not have the means to recruit staff. Many CSOs lack lawyers or legal practitioners from the civil society field who would creatively and openly seek for ways to improve the legal framework and thereby supporting advocacy strategies. Financial capacities of CSOs in Turkey and their fundraising capacity are very low. The Regional distribution in accessing the technological tools is also uneven. In eastern and south eastern Anatolia, the percentage of CSOs that can afford a computer is very low (around 3-4%). Another important point mentioned in the Report is that “Regarding internal governance, it can be said that the majority of CSOs are managed on a daily-basis, with key decisions taken by chairpersons or managing boards. Generally, many CSOs perform as “one-person” organisations in which all leadership, management and administrative authority is vested in the chairperson.” Another important challenge regarding the capacity of CSOs is the relations with other CSOs. The relations mostly depend on individual relations and are not maintained at institutional level. Primary relations play a central role in networking and collaboration and accordingly relations have been dependent on ad-hoc and immediate problems or needs. This negatively affects the development of a cooperation culture vested at institutional level.

The capacity of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to steer up processes in the field of civil society dialogue and cultural heritage also needs to be enhanced. The fact that the involvement of civil society is inherent to the methodology of developing site management plans¹ renders the intervention relevant in terms of civil society development through assuming an active role in local decision-making and enhancing dialogue with their counterparts in the EU.

The relevant stakeholder groups are CSOs, networks/platforms/initiatives mainly working on human rights, gender, child rights, environment, youth, disadvantaged and/or vulnerable groups, cultural rights/culture, business life and arts etc. The Ministry for EU Affairs, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, local authorities, universities and other public institutions involved in policy-making and those that are working with CSOs and business committees are among the main stakeholders of the action as well.

In the needs assessment report prepared by TACSO², the obstacles ahead of and challenges for CSOs are illustrated as follows:

¹ The general goals of the UNESCO Site Management Plans include: mitigating impacts on endangered sites; preventing destruction of sites and dispersal of artefacts by denying permits to exploiters seeking private financial gain; creating local, national and international inventories of the sites; protecting and interpreting sites in situ whenever possible; excavating sites only when there are scientific objectives or interests for public enjoyment, adequate funding, professional staff, provisions for documentation, conservation, curation, reporting and publication; involving the public so that people can become the guardians of their cultural heritage etc.

² Turkey Needs Assessment Report, TACSO, 2014.

- **Statistics and data on CSOs** are not integrated into the official statistical system in Turkey.
- **Distribution of CSOs** is very uneven in Turkey (the majority of them is based in the metropolitan cities).
- The **percentage of rights-based CSOs** is very low.
- **Resources** (human and financial) are voiced as the major problems of CSOs. The number of members, volunteers, and specifically active volunteers is very low.
- **Financial capacities** of CSOs in Turkey and their fundraising capacity are very low.
- **Regional distribution in accessing technological tools** is also uneven.
- Regarding internal governance, it can be said that the majority of **CSOs are managed on a daily-basis**, with key decisions taken by chairpersons or managing boards.
- Generally, many CSOs perform as **“one-person” organisations** in which all leadership, management and administrative authority is vested in the chairperson.
- **Relations with other CSOs** mostly depend on individual relations and are not maintained at an institutional level.

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

This Action on support to Civil Society is composed of four different sub-actions; i.e.

- 1- Legislative environment for active citizenship
- 2- Strengthening cooperation between CSOs and public sector
- 3- Strengthening the capacities of and networking between organised active citizens / CSOs
- 4- Connecting people for mutual understanding between citizens in Turkey and the EU

In the previous Action on Civil Society (2015), the main focus area was determined as the institutional capacities of relevant public institutions. The main focus of this Action is to support the development of the capacities of CSOs with a bottom-up approach, including by fostering cooperation between Turkish and EU CSOs. It is also aimed at promoting joint cultural actions and the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage and diversity, as well as creating a culture of cooperation between CSOs and local authorities. In addition to these, pilot implementation modalities will be created by increasing CSOs capacities for analysis, monitoring and advocacy as well as networking, partnership, coalition-building and active involvement in the policy and law making processes.

By means of the grant schemes, new actors will be included, such as universities, CSOs with a sufficient capacity, local stakeholders, etc. Geographical coverage at country level will be ensured, i.e. efforts will be made to reach out to CSOs in disadvantaged regions more particularly.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The Action addresses the objectives of the IPA II Indicative Strategy Paper for Turkey (IPA II Strategy Paper) under the Civil Society sub-sector which are *to support the development of civil society through more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes; promote a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue; enhance civil society dialogue and inter-cultural exchange between civil societies in Turkey and Europe.*

The Action also covers several of the actions pre-defined for financing under the IPA II Strategy Paper.

The European Commission's Enlargement Strategy underlined *a stronger role for civil society organisations and a much more supportive and enabling environment to foster their development in the enlargement countries. This is necessary to enhance political accountability and promote deeper understanding of accession related reforms. An empowered civil society is a crucial component of any democratic system....*

The **2015 Progress Report** again underlines the importance of an *empowered civil society as a crucial component of any democratic system*. . References are made to the good examples of interaction between the authorities and the civil society, including the preparation of the Tenth National Development Plan (2014-2018) and four well-attended meetings across the country focusing on EU issues. However, in the absence of structured arrangements for their participation, CSOs have frequently not been able to take an active part in the policy and legislative processes. Systemic problems, such as restrictions on registering and the procedures for the authorisation and functioning of associations need to be addressed.”

DG Enlargement Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries, 2014-2020 include a set of objectives, results, and indicators for the EU support to civil society which will allow for the measurement of progress at country level as well across the enlargement region. The intervention logic and most of the indicators defined in this Action have been inspired by these Guidelines. The EU Guidelines will be an important tool during the implementation and monitoring process of the Action.

The **10th National Development Plan of Turkey** (2014-2018) points out the increased role of civil society in solving social problems and supporting development efforts. It also refers to the substantial disparities among regions with respect to the number of CSOs, their members and their effectiveness. Therefore, main objectives within the timespan of the Plan period are to enhance the democratic participation of CSOs in decision making processes, to improve the technical and financial capacities of CSOs in order to increase their support to local development initiatives and to promote their project development and implementation capabilities.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Activities supporting civil society date back to 2001 and include nearly 30 programmes. Significant investment and efforts were made by the EU and Turkey for supporting the development of capacities of civil society organisations and civil society-public dialogue. Moreover, the report of the “*Thematic Evaluation of EU’s Support to civil society in the Western Balkans and Turkey (WBT)*” (2012) highlights several lessons learnt in the area of civil society development:

- Efficiency and effectiveness of EU assistance would be significantly improved by additional efforts to balance the assistance in order to better reach out to smaller and grass-roots organisations. This can be done by simplification of procedures for smaller grants, through enabling use of local languages, decreasing the share of co-funding and allowing for simplified reporting procedures, whilst respecting the general rules and regulations of EU assistance.
- EU support should further build the capacity of CSOs so that they can fully and effectively fulfil their role as “watchdogs” when it comes to policy issues and advocacy in matters such as human rights and the fight against corruption.
- EU assistance has contributed to building the organisational, advocacy and fundraising skills of larger CSOs to a satisfactory extent. The second step is to ensure the sustainability and democratic values of all CSOs, including these larger ones, by investing in building their capacities in terms of transparency, CSO governance and accountability. In parallel, thematic (micro) grant schemes which have already proven their efficiency and effectiveness in terms of reaching out to small and local CSOs should be pursued and their number increased, while facilitating access, eligibility and utilisation by such local grassroots CSOs.

Likewise, according to the above mentioned evaluation report, lessons learned in the area of cooperation between civil society sector and public sector are as follows:

- The governments in all countries of the WBT region have progressed towards a better recognition of the role, value and contribution of CS to the overall development of their countries. They are also increasingly aware of the need to include CS in decision making processes in all areas of life, in order to positively affect the lives of marginalised and excluded groups in particular. Further investment in building institutional and policy frameworks for cooperation with CS at different levels of government is valuable for enhancing the sustainability of efforts and the longer-term impact of assistance.

The lessons learnt within the scope of the project "Strengthening Civil Society Development and Civil Society-Public Sector Dialogue in Turkey" (2011) are as follows:

- Public institutions and CSOs may act differently on the same issue area because there are not formalized procedures or frameworks of action to govern civil society-public sector cooperation. The two sides of this relationship often act without knowledge of the other and hence joint action and reporting become impossible.

CSOs' perception is that public institutions do not regard CSOs as natural and equal parties to policy-making processes. This negative perception reduces the chances of CSOs to invoke their legal rights (however limited) to engage and converse with public institutions in various policy areas.

Within the context of EU financial assistance to Turkey, it has been observed that the Civil Society Development Centre (STGM) has been the leading beneficiary of the projects supported in the field of civil society development. An impact analysis has been carried out regarding STGM's support for civil society development under the "Strengthening Freedom of Association for further Development of Civil Society (TR0401.04)", "Supporting Civil Society Development and Dialogue in Turkey (TR0604.05)" and "Civil Society Development for Active Participation-TR 0801.08" project. The key lessons learnt and recommendations illustrated under the aforementioned study are as follows:

- Although the general opinion regarding the effects of the training sessions on awareness raising, development of skills and enhancement of the information level is positive, a significant part of participants held negative thoughts on the variety and sufficiency of training topics.
- It was identified that the support provided needs to be broadened so as to tackle with the comprehensive and multi-dimensional issues of CSOs and some improvement on just and effective distribution of support is expected.

Despite the fact that the study mainly focused on STGM's support to CSOs within the scope of mentioned project, it is valuable to perceive further needs of CSOs and the need of comprehensive and multi-dimensional activities towards CSOs.

2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
To support the development of civil society through more active democratic participation in policy and decision making processes and by promoting a culture of fundamental rights and dialogue	Progress in enabling environment for freedoms, operation of CSOs and participation in policy-making Number of associations and membership, including networks, platforms and civic initiatives	European Commission – Annual Progress Reports for Turkey Turkish Ministry of Interior – Department of Associations	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
To improve the enabling environment for active citizenship and civil society capacity development; To strengthen cooperation between public sector and CSOs; To strengthen the capacities of CSOs, through capacity building, networking and civil society dialogue both at national and European level	Number of employees and/or volunteers in CSOs	- Records of Ministry of Interior - Data of the Directorate for Foundations - Monitoring reports of CSOs (CSI Turkey Report, Reports of TACSO, STGM, TÜSEV, and other CSOs, platforms and networks e.g. CIVICUS reports - Monitoring reports of the TAs - External evaluations	Turkey is committed to fully respect democratic principles as per Copenhagen political criteria
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
R.1 Public institutions recognise the importance of CSOs in improving good governance through CSOs' inclusion in decision making processes R.2 Advocacy capacities and communication skills of CSOs are enhanced to develop policies, to engage in policy dialogue with public bodies, and to communicate the results of their activities to the public R.3. CSOs regularly network within and outside country borders and make use of coalition-building for increased impact in campaigning and advocacy R.4 Long-term partnerships and cooperation between EU and Turkish CSOs increased R.5. Exchanges between CSOs from Turkey and the EU member states increase, as well as the media coverage increased R.6. Joint cultural actions and the preservation and value of cultural heritage and diversity promoted	External perception of importance and impact of CSOs activities Ratio of CSOs which use adequate argumentation and analysis for achieving advocacy goals Share of CSOs taking part in local, national, regional and international networks Number of CSOs from Turkey and from EU Member States involved in the Civil Society Dialogue activities Number of long-term partnerships between EU and Turkish organisations	- Questionnaires and research studies implemented by TATs, both with CSOs and with public institutions - ROM reports prepared by independent evaluation teams - Survey and independent assessments e.g. CIVICUS reports, platforms and networks reports, BSCDN. - TAT reports on number of capacity building activities under IPA 2015 - Media coverage compilations	- Related public institutions have political determination to improve legislative environment and to cooperate with CSOs in decision making processes and implementation - Both public authorities and CSOs are willing to engage in dialogue and cooperation. - CSOs are willing to collaborate among themselves and also to create networks and platforms. - Grant beneficiaries show willingness to develop effective and sustainable cooperation. - Media is open to promote all sorts of civil society work and dialogue.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activity 1 – Supporting civil society dialogue between EU and Turkey (CSD VI)

The Activity is the successor of the previous Civil Society Dialogue interventions implemented by the Ministry for EU Affairs. The specific objectives of the activity are;

- to increase bilateral exchanges and cooperation between CSOs in Turkey and the EU at local, regional and national levels and
- to promote awareness raising initiatives on importance and benefits of membership of Turkey to the EU within both Turkey and the EU and on challenges and opportunities posed by Turkey's accession

The grants will be awarded to the projects supporting the EU accession process of Turkey. The civil society dialogue is a driving force and an indispensable element for Turkey's integration with the EU and it is an indispensable element of this integration process, as well as for the negotiations. CSD VI will focus on civil society dialogue activities on the identification of dynamics and issues related to civil society participation to the accession process of Turkey. Since—almost all activities in the *COM(2005) 290 final*³ have been addressed by previous Civil Society Dialogue interventions so far, instead of adopting a focus on topics and sectors, the calls will focus on “expected sustainable results” of actions, influencing the general public opinion and deepening and sustaining dialogue established under previous CSD interventions. The following is an non-exhaustive list of priority areas:

- establishing a “common approach” and “pilot initiatives”, for developing models and methodologies based on the sharing of experiences and exchanging of knowledge;
- building “common agendas” for guiding advocacy and policy engagement;
- influencing the agendas and negotiations related to the Turkey's accession process to the EU;
- reinforcing regional and international networks and platforms between the EU and Turkey;
- promoting common cultural values and policies;
- supporting the sustainability of dialogue actions established under previous CSD interventions;
- identifying the current concerns and perceptions within the EU and Turkey and promoting the initiatives to discuss and overcome them;
- creating campaigns to positively influence general public opinion on Turkey's accession to the EU; enhancing the knowledge and understanding of the EU within the public in Turkey.

Activity 2 – Common Cultural Heritage: Preservation and dialogue between Turkey and the EU (Phase II)

The Activity aims at promoting civil society dialogue by means of culture, arts and cultural heritage via improving the international cooperation on cultural heritage and promotion of cultural diversity in Turkey. The Activity is based on the outcomes of the Common Cultural Heritage: Preservation and dialogue between Turkey and the EU (Phase I) funded by EU.

The specific objectives of the Activity are as follows:

³ Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Civil Society Dialogue between the EU and Candidate Countries {SEC(2005) 891 }

- Restoration of the Sinop Historical Prison with the help of the knowledge and outputs obtained during the first phase of the project including the refunctionalisation plan of the prison⁴ and tender documentations for the Sinop Historical Prison restoration and supervision.
- Promotion of cross border dialogues and networking, establishment of partnerships between CSOs in Turkey and the EU in the areas of culture, arts and cultural heritages.

The Activity is the second stage of a two-legged cultural heritage project. The restoration project (works contract) which has been developed for the Historical Sinop Prison under the first phase with the grant component will be implemented within this phase. The knowledge and outputs obtained during the first phase of the project including Sinop Historical Prison functionalization plan and tender documentations for its restoration and supervision will be used for the smooth implementation of this project.

A grant scheme will also be implemented by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The grants will be awarded to the projects supporting civil society dialogue between the EU and Turkey on culture, arts and cultural heritage. Within the grants, activities supporting awareness raising on cultural heritage, training or networking activities, joint workshops on cultural heritage and culture forums and increased exchange of experience with respect to supporting cultural diversity. At least 20 projects including the promotion of cross border dialogue and networking, establishment of partnerships between CSOs in Turkey and the EU, training on the issues of cultural heritage, heritage protection, restoration, joint workshops on cultural heritage and culture forums and raising awareness of these issues, and increased exchange of experience with respect to supporting cultural diversity and other activities in the field of culture and arts will be funded under the grant scheme. It is expected that all these activities will continue, intensify and diversify in the future, thus furthering the development of the Civil Society Dialogue.

The Activity will pave the way for state - CSO cooperation as well as active participation of CSOs in the decision making mechanisms. The aim is to help restructure and improve exchanges between CSOs working in the cultural heritage field in Turkey and in the EU and other organisations which are unable to contact due to lack of financial resources and professional staff.

Activity 3 – Civil Society Support Programme – III

With the Activity, the capacity of civil society organisations will be improved for a better civil dialogue, participation and reputation. Civil society organisations will be supported and the development of established organisations and networks will be sustained.

The “civil society support programme” will have a visibility and its own brand name well known by the civil society such as the EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue Programme. Activities with CSOs as direct beneficiaries will be repeated at suitable time intervals under brand names and the call for proposals for the grant schemes will also be published at suitable time intervals for a better understanding and follow up of the civil society.

This Activity is designed in line with the objectives defined under the EU Guidelines, such as; “capable, transparent and accountable CSOs”, “effective CSOs” and “financially sustainable CSOs”. The activity addresses the national CSOs for enhancing a bottom-up approach by strengthening the capacity of CSOs.

The financial sustainability and the institutional capacity of the CSOs will be increased via projects under the grant schemes and the projects will also contribute to promoting public-CSO cooperation and enabling a better legal environment. The grants will address the priorities under the sub-actions of the sectoral planning document except for the civil society dialogue. The priorities to be addressed each year will be revised after consultations are held with the civil society organisations both at the national and local level.

Strategic Capacity Building Facility

The main target will be to increase the strategic capacity building of CSOs. With this Activity, the capacity of civil society organisations is expected to be improved, civil dialogue enhanced, and participation and

⁴ The scope of the refunctionalisation of the historical prison was to create something unique for the city which will have an impact and will be part of the site management plan.

reputation increased. The projects under the grant scheme will not only enhance the financial sustainability and the institutional capacity of the CSOs but also promote public-CSO cooperation and enable a better legal environment.

In parallel with the EU Guidelines, the grant scheme will target CSOs to improve their *autonomy*, *representativeness* and *accountability* by strengthening their membership base, by higher internal governance standards, including democratic structures, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, transparency, geographic outreach and cooperation. Also pilot implementation modalities will be created by increasing their capacity for analysis, monitoring and advocacy as well as networking, partnership, coalition-building and active involvement in the policy and law making processes.

A Technical Assistance contract is not foreseen for Activities 1 and 3. The Technical Assistance Team, which has also been programmed in the 2015 Action Document, will assist the MEUA to implement the CSD and CSSP planned in both the 2015 and 2016 programming years.

RISKS

The main risk is lack of the willingness of CSOs to collaborate among themselves and also to create networks and platforms. To overcome this risk, an efficient promotion strategy will be implemented. Also information activities targeting right stakeholders will be organised. Sharing success stories will be another tool for increasing the willingness of CSOs and especially for including new actors to civil-society sub-sector.

Another risk pertains to the public institutions' political determination to improve legislative environment and willingness to co-operate with CSOs in decision making processes and implementation. Including local authorities will be the biggest challenge.

On the other hand, complex application forms, lengthy evaluation processes, detailed rules of spending, co-financing requirements etc. have created a negative reaction for EU supported grant schemes under this modality. This may affect the motivation of the CSOs to propose projects for EU funding.

In order to address these challenges, capacity building activities will be made available to the potential beneficiaries of the grant schemes funded under this action, with view to increase their motivation to apply and in order to improve quality of project proposals. MEUA, CFCU and EUD will explore systemic measures which can be put in place in order to shorten the evaluation processes. This approach will help to change the perceptions.

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the action requires continued commitment by the Turkish authorities, including political support to achieve the actions objective and expected results as well as sufficient and stable staffing of the beneficiary institutions.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

For Activity 1 - Supporting civil society dialogue between EU and Turkey (CSD VI)

The beneficiary of the "Supporting civil society dialogue between EU and Turkey (CSD VI)" is the Ministry for EU Affairs. MEUA will coordinate the implementation of the activity, ensuring the involvement and participation of all concerned institutions.

A *Steering Committee* will be formed composed of representatives of the EUD, MEUA, CFCU, other relevant public institutions and CSOs' representatives in a way that an open, fair and transparent countrywide participation is ensured.

As it is foreseen in the **2015 Action on Civil Society**, the technical assistance team will assist the MEUA to implement the CSD and civil society support programmes in the 2015 and 2016 programming years. It will be a multi-annual, long term contract. There is not any service component programmed under this Action.

The Implementing Agency for all activities under this Action will be the Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) that will be responsible for all procedural aspects of the tendering process, contracting matters and financial management (including payments) of the activities.

For Activity 2 - Common Cultural Heritage: Preservation and dialogue between Turkey and the EU (Phase II)

The beneficiary of the Activity is the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The Ministry will coordinate the implementation of the activity, ensuring the involvement and participation of all concerned institutions.

A *Steering Committee* will be formed composed of representatives from the MoCT, EUD, MEUA, CFCU, other relevant public institutions and CSOs' representatives.

For Activity 3- "Civil Society Support Programme – III"

The beneficiary of the Activity is the Ministry for EU Affairs. MEUA will coordinate the implementation of the activity, ensuring the involvement and participation of all concerned institutions. Both the Directorate for Project Implementation and Directorate of Civil Society, Communication and Culture will jointly be responsible for the implementation of the activity.

A *Steering Committee* will be formed composed of representatives from the EUD, MEUA, CFCU, other relevant public institutions and CSOs' representatives such that an open, fair and transparent country-wide participation is ensured.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

Activity 1 - Supporting civil society dialogue between EU and Turkey (CSD VI) will be composed of a grant scheme.

Activity 2 - Common Cultural Heritage: Preservation and dialogue between Turkey and the EU (Phase II) will be carried out through a works contract, a supervision contract and a grant scheme.

Activity 3- "Civil Society Support Programme – III" will be composed of a grant scheme.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

In line with the IPA II Implementing Regulation 447/2014, an IPA II beneficiary who has been entrusted budget implementation tasks of IPA II assistance shall be responsible for conducting evaluations of the programmes it manages.

The European Commission may carry out a mid-term, a final or an ex-post evaluation for this Action or its components via independent consultants, through a joint mission or via an implementing partner. In case a mid-term or final evaluation is not foreseen, the European Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner. The evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines for evaluations. In addition, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement.

At the grant scheme level, in order to monitor the grant contracts a monitoring team will be formed within MEUA together with the Technical Assistance Team throughout the implementation. At the activity level, a *Steering Committee* will be formed with the participation of representatives of the EUD, MEUA, CFCU, CSOs representatives and other relevant organisations for Activity 3. Steering Committees will meet every six months to monitor the activity. A similar monitoring structure will be formed for Activity 1.

For the monitoring of the Action, an *Action Monitoring Committee* will be established with the participation of MEUA, EUD, CFCU and CSOs' representatives. This committee will meet annually or semi-annually and be responsible for the monitoring of the Action holistically. In addition, an ex-post evaluation of the Action by an independent evaluation team is foreseen.

Besides, an evaluation study to measure the impact of the whole Action is foreseen in 2020.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator	Baseline (value + year)	Target 2020	Final Target (year) 2023	Source of information
Number of employees and/or volunteers in CSOs E = Employees V = Volunteers	E (2014) ⁵ = 52 354 V (2014) ⁶ = 1 036 755	E = 104 708 V = 1 555 132	E = 130 885 V = 2 073 510	BCSDN, records of TUIK, TACSO Regional Monitoring for EU Guidelines, Official Data from Department of Associations and DG Foundations
External perception of importance and impact of CSOs activities (%) ⁷	53 (2015)	60	70	TACSO Regional Monitoring for EU Guidelines
Ratio of CSOs which use adequate argumentation and analysis for achieving advocacy goals (%) ⁸	33	70	70	TACSO Regional Monitoring for EU Guidelines,
Share of CSOs taking part in local, national, regional and international networks (%) ⁹	15.5 (2015)	25.5	25.5	TACSO Regional Monitoring for EU Guidelines, Official Data from Department of Associations and DG Foundations

⁵ Number of employees in associations annually shared by DoA. Associations have 35 581 employees (2014) and new foundations have 16 773 employees (2014) – total 52 354.

⁶ Based on the annual declarations of CSOs; the number of volunteers for Associations and new Foundations are available annually. Associations have 14 954 volunteers (2014) and new foundations have 1 021 801 volunteers (2014) – total 1 036 755. The target is to double these numbers by 2020 and maintain that level by 2023. It is noteworthy to consider that there's no official definition of volunteer in legislation and the data is based on CSOs understanding and statements in official declarations.

⁷ This indicator is based on respondents of public survey % of citizens trust in civil society organisations. In scope of a service contract, TACSO assists EU in conducting annual monitoring of qualitative indicators for EU Guidelines Monitoring. In scope of this work, a regionally coordinated survey is carried out that will be sustained by Resource Centre organisations in every country: According to TACSO 2015 Survey, a general population survey is carried out: 53% of citizens trust in civil society organisations, and 50% of citizens have perception that the CSOs are committed to solve the problems

⁸ In scope of a service contract, TACSO assists EU in conducting annual monitoring of qualitative indicators for EU Guidelines Monitoring. In scope of this work, a regionally coordinated survey is carried out that will be sustained by Resource Centre organisations in every country: According to TACSO 2015 Survey; According to TACSO 2015 Survey only 33% of respondents declared they frequently or constantly use adequate argumentation and analysis for achieving advocacy goals.

⁹ This indicator is calculated as % of CSOs are taking part in at least 1 local, national, regional or international network). Number of associations that declared to be a member of a platform or federation or confederation and member of platform member CSOs are annually available. According to 2015 data from DoA 15 737 associations are member of federations or confederations in 2015. There are 1786 platforms in 2015 and 1242 associations are members of platforms. Annual number of associations in 2015 is 109 642. Calculation: $[(15.737+1242) / 109.642] \times 100 = 15.49\%$. Number of federations by 2016 August is 947 and confederation is 69 (Genel Teşkilat Bilgileri www.dernekler.gov.tr).

Number of CSOs from Turkey and from EU Member States involved in the CSD activities	805 (2014)	1600	1600	Award lists, TAT reports, Monitoring reports
Number of long-term partnerships between EU and Turkish organisations (%) ¹⁰	0 (2016)	70	70	Ex-post evaluation report, TACSO Regional Monitoring for EU Guidelines

¹⁰ % of partners that continue dialoguing beyond the lifespan of the CSD grants financed by this action.

5. SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

The EU accession process has been the catalyst for the development of civil society in Turkey. Therefore, the needs and priorities of the sector have been indicated mainly in the official documents related to the accession process. In addition, several public institutions are involved in the development of civil society. Yet, a coherent and widely-accepted civil society sector policy or strategy or a single institution responsible for facilitation of such a strategy does not exist in Turkey.

MEUA has been identified as the **lead institution** for the civil society sub-sector due to its experience and long-lasting involvement with civil society. The main responsibilities of the MEUA are to direct, monitor and coordinate the works to be undertaken with the aim of preparing Turkey for EU membership and to coordinate the works after Turkey's accession. MEUA, bearing in mind the fact that CSOs are the natural shareholders of the EU process, has been both consulting CSOs periodically through "Dialogue with Civil Society Meetings" and also implementing several projects aiming at increasing the efficiency of cooperation between the public sector-civil society, developing the capacity of CSOs and promoting a dialogue in between the EU and Turkey.

The programming of the IPA-II civil society sub-sector has been proceeding with the participation of all relevant parties. The MEUA steered this process with the relevant civil society organisations and line Ministries. However, the participation and the contribution of the civil society organisations to programming process can still be improved. By experience, it is for sure that in the planning, programming, monitoring and the reporting process of the activities, CSO contribution is an added value. A civil society sub-sector programming without the effective cooperation of CSOs will have certain shortcomings at some points.

Stakeholder engagement for Civil Society Sector Programming will be carried out with **comprehensive consultation mechanism** that will be established by the MEUA and be followed by **a new multi-annual methodology** for programming of the Civil Society sub-sector, based on such sound consultation mechanism.

Sector approach in further development has enshrined in programming of civil society sub-sector includes **four pillars** guided by the Guidelines for EU support to civil society in enlargement countries 2014-2020:

- 1- Enabling Environment for active citizenship
- 2- Strengthening cooperation between CSOs and public sector
- 3- Civil Society Capacity Building
- 4- Civil Society Dialogue

6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Gender balance will be sought on all the managing bodies and activities of the Action, and importance will be given during all stages of contracting and implementation. Equal participation of women and men will be secured in the design of activities and access to the opportunities they offer. Promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities will be considered when preparing guidelines for applicants for the calls for proposals.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The selection criteria for the grant schemes will favour projects that demonstrate a positive impact on equal opportunities. Appropriate guidance will be included in guidelines to applicants. All contractors shall be requested to provide monitoring data, recording the participation of men and women in terms of expert inputs (in days) and of trainees/beneficiaries benefiting under the project (in days) as an integral component of all activity progress reports. A fair geographical distribution will be secured in order to also include the less exposed regions.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

According to the Turkish Constitutional System, the word minority encompasses only groups of persons defined and recognised as such on the basis of multilateral or bilateral instruments to which Turkey is a party. The activities supported under this Action will contribute to the enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms without any discrimination. Throughout the Action, minorities and vulnerable groups will be targeted for active participation in and benefiting from the activities. The participation of children, women and groups with low-income level will be promoted along with other groups of civil society in all of the activities through the democratic processes and appropriate measures.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER NON-STATE STAKEHOLDERS)

The Ministry for EU Affairs, as the lead institution for the civil society sub-sector, has been steering the programming process with the relevant civil society organisations and line Ministries. Support to and therefore engagement with civil society is the main objective of this action.

With regard to the implementation of the action, CSOs will be active members in the *Steering Committees* of the activities and the *Action Monitoring Committee*.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

Not applicable

7. SUSTAINABILITY

Under Activity 1 – Civil society dialogue programme will be repeated at suitable time intervals and the call for proposals for grant schemes will also be published at suitable time intervals. This will provide sustainability throughout the programming period. Furthermore, existing partnerships and networks will be strengthened and new partnerships/cooperation among CSOs at all levels will be established which is foreseen to construct strong dialogue bridges among Turkish and EU civil societies.

Under Activity 2 – After the completion of the project, the restored Sinop Historical Museum will be effectively used by the local authorities and it will be protected and preserved by them for the future cultural organisations to be held in this cultural centre. A sustainable development and management model creating a lively and inviting city centre and attracting new investments will be developed with the participation of the local authorities, MoCT and local CSOs and cultural and artistic events will be hosted at this place.

For a comfortable visit to the site, the routes will be determined with easily readable signs and will be pedestrianized. Oral history research will be conducted with cultural groups and an archive will be prepared. The project will serve as a model for other CSOs as well. The managers and students will carry on similar projects. This model will be extended to the entire country following the completion of the project. The preservation and restoration of cultural and historical sites will be integrated in the regional economic development plan.

This culture-based regional economic development plan implemented with the cooperation of the EU guarantees that its effect will not be limited to this project and it will be spread all over Turkey with the implementation of similar projects in the fields of cultural heritage, restoration and design.

Under Activity 3 – The Civil society support programme will be repeated at suitable time intervals and the call for proposals for grant schemes will also be published at suitable time intervals. This will provide sustainability within the programming period. Furthermore, the increased civil society capacity will be the guarantee for long term partnerships in thematic areas as another sustainability component of this activity.

8. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation of the Action. The implementation of the communication activities shall be funded from the amounts allocated to the Action.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the Action has received funding from the EU in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions. Additional Visibility Guidelines developed by the European Commission (DG NEAR) will have to be followed.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives and the accession process. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions and will promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

The communication and visibility of the Action will be carried out in three different forms:

- Via direct communications (Workshops, trainings, seminars etc.) with key stakeholders including local and national authorities
- Publicity/public information outreach including press media conference, media interviews, press releases, newspaper, photo opportunities, newsletters, research papers, reports etc.
- Web based communications including setting up a website, email distribution lists and social media channels

In order to reach the target group of the grant schemes, a group of comprehensive communication and visibility activities will be conducted by the MEUA after the calls for proposals are announced. Details of the communication and visibility activities will be developed before the launch of calls for proposals. Moreover, a particular communication and visibility plan for the implementation stage will be prepared for both activities at the inception phase of the Technical Assistance. Common TAs will provide a certain synergy among various activities as well.