

# ANNUAL PROGRAMME

■ revised version

MEMBER STATE: Romania

FUND: European Integration Fund

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform

YEAR COVERED: 2007

## 1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

The Annual Programme shall be published by RIO, as delegated authority, on its web page or the official web page of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform ([www.mira.gov.ro](http://www.mira.gov.ro)).

The calls for proposals are open to the national, regional and local authorities, NGOs, as well as international organisations, working on a strictly non-profit basis, with proven experience and expertise in the fields covered, taking into account their respective institutional competencies.

RIO is appointed as **Contracting and Payment Authority (Delegated Authority)**. It is responsible for drafting the national programmes, selection of projects and tender procedures, monitoring the implementation of projects and payments.

In order to organize the selection of projects, RIO shall publish a Call for proposals on its web page. The call for proposals is the invitation for the potential candidates to present, within a deadline, a proposal for the action which best addresses the pursued objectives and meets the compulsory requirements.

All applications shall be examined and evaluated following the criteria mentioned in the call for proposals, ensuring at the same time equal chances. Candidates shall be informed in due time on the final decision regarding their proposal.

The Instructions for the applicants shall be published on the internet together with the Call for proposals and shall be made also available, in CD format or printed material, at RIO headquarters. This document is meant to explain the purpose of the Call for proposals, rules regarding the eligibility of applicants and their partners, types of actions, eligible costs and evaluation criteria. Information on filling in the forms, the steps to be taken by the applicants, the evaluation process and the contract clauses shall be provided, as well.

The Instructions shall establish in detail the objectives and priorities of the call for proposals, and shall pay a special attention to eligibility criteria.

The Instructions must provide the evaluation grid and the application form.

The evaluation grid defines the selection and evaluation criteria. These cannot be changed throughout the selection procedure. The criteria have to be explicit, non-discriminating and shall bring no prejudice to a fair competition.

Applications shall be sent to RIO headquarters, within a sufficient deadline to allow the drafting of quality proposals. Within this deadline, the applicants should ask for clarifications in order to fill in the forms and to provide concordance of all applications. The answers with general relevance shall be disseminated to all applicants, through the dedicated web page of RIO.

Prior to the opening session, RIO shall establish an evaluation committee, consisting of experts in the field of social integration of TCNs and management of EU funds. The number of members of the committee should allow a quick and thorough evaluation of the proposals. If the committee notices ineligible applicants and/or proposals, these have to be informed in the early stage of the selection process. After the final decision is taken, all applicants shall be informed in due time on the winning proposal.

All publicity and documents within the selection process shall be drafted in Romanian language.

RIO is the designated authority to conclude the contracts. The contracts shall be granted on the basis of the following criteria:

- the relevance of the projects, in relation with the situation and requirements in Romania in the field of social integration of TCNs;
- the cost-effectiveness of the expenditure, in view of the number of persons concerned by the projects;
- the experience, expertise and reliability of the applicant organisations and any partner organisation;
- the extent to which the projects complement other action funded by the general budget of EU or as part of national programmes.

## 2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS (if appropriate)

Compared to the situation described in the initial version of Multi-Annual Programme 2007-2013, currently, the European Funds Service within the General Directorate for European Affairs and International Relations of MIAR is appointed as Responsible Authority to provide communication with the European Commission, rules for implementing the European Integration Fund, and coordination of all measures regarding the programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The Audit Authority, mentioned in the initial version of the Multi-Annual Programme 2007-2013, at section 5.2, namely the General Audit Directorate of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform, was replaced with the Audit Authority attached to the Romanian Court of Accounts. This structure is independent from the other MCS competent authorities (Responsible Authority, Certifying Authority and Contracting and Payment Authority -Delegated Authority).

## 3. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE PRIORITIES CHOSEN

### 3.1. Actions implementing Priority 1

#### **Action 1: Awareness public campaigns**

*Purpose and scope of the action:*

To create a proper climate amongst the Romanian population regarding the immigration, as well as to promote the social integration of the newly-arrived TCNs, at both national and local level.

*Expected grant recipients*

Organizations or bodies within Romania with relevant expertise, in particular, public authorities (national, regional and local), international organizations, NGOs and academic bodies.

*Justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

*Expected quantified results and indicators to be used:*

- At least 50% of the Romanian population of 5 cities which register the highest number of TCNs shall be informed on the benefits of the immigration
- Increase of the awareness level of the host population of the 5 cities with at least 100% (verified within a research study on the impact of the public campaigns)
- At least 1 seminar with 20 participants (journalists) performed in each of the 5 cities
- At least 1 advertising spot produced and broadcast on the local TV programmes of the 5 cities;
- Publicity materials produced and disseminated through at least 3 of the most important media channels of the 5 cities, for at least 6 months

*Visibility of EC funding*

In all activities performed within the awareness campaign, the EU logo and the indication on IF co-financing shall be placed on all materials produced such as leaflets, publicity materials, PR work etc. and the audience shall receive such information.

*Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments:*

Within project PHARE RO 0107.17 "Strengthening the management of the migration phenomenon in Romania", in 2004, the Romanian authorities conducted an awareness campaign aimed at the social integration of the TCNs, other than refugees and beneficiaries of a form of protection, valued at more than EUR 75,000.

The Romanian population shall receive relevant information at both national and local level, about the asylum seekers, refugees and persons granted a form of protection in Romania through an awareness campaign which shall be performed within the twinning project RO06/IB/JH/10 "Continuing the development of asylum and migration systems in Romania". For the implementation of the mentioned action there is allocated 100,000 euro from national co-financing, included in the PHARE project. The action proposed within the Annual Programme 2007 will focus on the same target group, but is complementary in terms of the nature of the disseminated information, namely the situation of newly-arrived TCNs in Romania.

There is little possibility that the action overlap with specific projects developed under the European Social Fund. However, to eliminate this risk, during the implementation of the Annual Programme, the Delegated Authority and the Responsible Authority shall have regular consultations with the Ministry of Labour, Family and Equality in Chances and the General Directorate for Development of Administrative Capacity, within MIAR, which are the management authorities for ESF. Moreover, to adequately prepare the documentation for the planned calls for proposals and eliminate duplication from the contracting phase, the authorities shall exchange information regarding the awarded/ongoing projects.

To ensure complementarity with the European Refugee Fund, the Responsible Authority shall be involved in the calls for proposals, performed by the Delegated Authority, by designating observers, as well as in monitoring the implementation of the projects. Ensuring a clear distinction between the target groups of the actions supported by the two Funds (third country nationals, on one side, and the categories defined in Decision 573/2007/CE, on another) shall be a main concern.

## **Action 2: Development of programmes on cultural orientation, social counseling and learning the Romanian language addressed to newly-arrived TCNs, as well as development of facilities for counseling and information**

*Purposes and scope of the action:*

To better address the needs of the newly-arrived TCNs towards their integration in the Romanian society.

To provide adequate facilities within the counseling and information offices of RIO, in order to provide relevant and practical information for the TCNs in the process of integration

*Expected grant recipients*

Organizations or bodies within Romania with relevant expertise, in particular, public authorities (national, regional and local), international organizations, NGOs and academic bodies.

*Justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

*Expected quantified results and indicators to be used:*

- 5 centers for information, counselling and learning of the Romanian language in the cities which register the highest number of TCNs settled and endowed with the necessary equipment and furniture
- At least 2 Romanian language teachers adequately trained for each of the 5 centers
- At least 500 TCN beneficiaries recorded in each of the 5 centers, during the first 6 months of operation
- Drafting of a orientation guide for the TCNs in Romania - at least 5000 copies printed and distributed within the 5 centres

#### *Visibility of EC funding*

Information on the IF co-financing shall be posted within the premises designated to hold the activities of the integration programmes. This information shall be placed on all materials provided to the target groups, such as presentations, handbooks, office supplies etc.

The EU logo and the indication on IF co-financing shall be placed on all equipment and materials procured in order to endow CIOs.

#### *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments:*

For complementarity with ESF and ERF see Action 1.

### 3.2. Actions implementing Priority 2

#### **Action 3: Research study on the situation of the TCNs in Romania regarding the integration aspects**

##### *Purpose and scope of the action:*

To better manage the integration process by providing relevant information on the TCNs.

##### *Expected grant recipients*

Organisations or bodies within Romania with relevant expertise, in particular, public authorities (national, regional and local), international organizations, NGOs and academic bodies.

##### *Justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

##### *Expected quantified results and indicators to be used:*

- Data regarding the access of TCNs in Romania to the labour market, education, social and medical services, housing, granting the citizenship etc. (percentages, distribution according to age, gender, origin country), produced in a scientific research targeted on a representative sample ;
- Data regarding the impact of the social policies on the level of integration of the TCNs in the Romanian society, produced in a scientific research targeted on a representative sample ;
- Data regarding the opinion of the TCNs on the integration possibilities offered by the Romanian society, the problems encountered in Romania, produced in a scientific research targeted on a representative sample ;
- Drafting the research report in 1000 copies and dissemination to all relevant actors in the field of social integration of TCNs.

##### *Visibility of EC funding*

During the consultation and working sessions, the EU logo and the indication on IF co-financing shall be placed on all materials produced such as handouts, presentations, handbooks etc. and the audience shall receive such information.

##### *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments:*

For complementarity with ESF and ERF see Action 1.

### 3.3. Actions implementing priority 3

#### **Action 4: Development of a consultation mechanism with the TCN communities**

##### *Purpose and scope of the action:*

To increase the capacity of TCNs to communicate with the representatives of the responsible authorities at both regional and local level

##### *Expected grant recipients*

Organizations or bodies within Romania with relevant expertise, in particular, public authorities (national, regional and local), international organizations, NGOs and academic bodies.

##### *Justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

*Expected quantified results and indicators to be used:*

- Identification of the TCN communities at national level;
- Creation of a national contact point for the TCN communities in Romania;
- Participation of the TCN community representatives in meetings, such as seminars, working groups, public debates etc., with the national and local authorities, at least twice a year;
- A quarterly publication (newspaper/magazine) of the TCN communities in Romania printed and distributed - at least 8000 copies.

*Visibility of EC funding*

In all consultation meetings, the EU logo and the indication on IF co-financing shall be placed on all materials produced such as leaflets, publicity materials, PR work etc. and the audience shall receive such information.

*Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments:*

For complementarity with ESF and ERF see Action 1.

## General remarks

For all the actions established in the Annual Programme the Delegated Authority will act as an awarding body. The applicants will support the private co-financing of each project in the amount of 5% of the value of the project and RIO, as the Contracting and Payment Authority should bear the difference of 20% of the national contribution, namely the public co-financing. If the public co-financing is not available at the time of the calls for proposals, the applicants should provide private co-financing in amount of 25%.

The actions will cover the period 2007 – 2009.

## 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### 4.1 Purpose of the technical assistance

The technical assistance shall support preparatory measures for calls for proposals, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and control measures, as well measures for the reinforcement of the administrative capacity for the implementation of the Fund.

The technical assistance, in amount of EUR 70,000 (established under the threshold of 7% of the total annual co-financing allocated to Romania plus EUR 30,000), will be committed directly by the Romanian Immigration Office, in compliance with the national legislation in the field of public acquisitions.

### 4.2 Expected quantified results

The procurements financed under the technical assistance will envisage the following results:

- Visibility items – banners, business cards, leaflets, office supplies, posters etc.
- Purchase of IT equipment and software necessary for management, monitoring, control and evaluation of actions
- Translation of the documents supporting the implementation of the measures
- Exchange of experience regarding the implementation of the Fund:
  - 1 study visit in a Member State - 5 Romanian experts, 3 working days
  - 1 consultation meeting in Romania – 5 MS experts, 3 working days
- Consultation with the potential grant recipient
- Temporary assignment of experts in drafting the calls for proposals/calls for tenders and the evaluation process
- Publication of the calls for proposals/calls for tenders and results
- Training course for the employees of the authorities of the management and control system regarding the PC use – MS Office
- Publication of the calls for proposals/calls for tenders and results

The Contracting and Payment Authority will ensure the complementarity with the achievements under the other Funds, within the General Programme, and will avoid overlapping of the respective results.

#### 4.3 Visibility of EC funding

In all activities, the EU logo and the indication on IF co-financing shall be placed on all materials produced such as tender dossiers, handouts, presentations etc. and the audience shall receive such information. Such information shall be placed on all equipment and materials procured from the resources dedicated to the technical assistance.

#### 5. DRAFT FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan  
Table 1 - Overview table

<b>Annual programme concerned: 2007</b>								
<b>Fund: European Integration Fund</b>								
	<b>Ref. priority</b>	<b>Ref. specific priority</b>	<b>Community contribution (a)</b>	<b>Public allocation (b)</b>	<b>Private allocation (c)</b>	<b>TOTAL (d)</b>	<b>% EC (e=a/d)</b>	<b>Share of total (f=d/total d)</b>
Action 1	1	5	177.500,21	47.333,39	11.833,35	236.666,95	75,00	<b>23,86%</b>
Action 2	1		221.000,02	58.933,34	14.733,33	294.666,69	75,00	<b>29,70%</b>
Action 3	2		93.025,12	24.806,70	6.201,67	124.033,49	75,00	<b>12,50%</b>
Action 4	3	4	200.000,02	53.333,34	13.333,33	266.666,69	75,00	<b>26,88%</b>
Technical assistance	n/a	n/a	70.000,00	0,00	0,00	70.000,00	100,00	<b>7,06%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>761.525,37</b>	<b>184.406,77</b>	<b>46.101,69</b>	<b>992.033,83</b>	<b>76,76</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

**FOR THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**ROMANIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE**

**GENERAL DIRECTOR**

**Vasile DRĂGOI**

**FOR THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY**

**GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

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