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## Annual Programme 2010 European Integration Fund

### **1. General rules for the selection of projects to be financed under the programme**

In the document “Description of management and control systems for the Integration Fund”, the Swedish ESF Council has presented the routines on which implementation is based.

#### **Organisation and the role of the partnership**

The Swedish ESF Council has been appointed by the Government as the authority responsible for the European Integration Fund (EIF). Programming issues relating to the Integration Fund are handled by the programme unit of the Council’s head office, where the European Social Fund is also handled, with the aim of promoting synergy and co-operation. The selection of projects funded is carried out by the regional office of Stockholm, in order to ensure a proper separation of functions between the responsible authority and the auditing authority.

The Council decision of the June 25, 2007 (2007/435/EG) stipulates that a partnership is to be established. The ESF-Council has established a partnership with the same composition as for the European Refugee Fund (ERF), the European Return Fund and the European Border Fund. This partnership includes the responsible authorities that implement the programmes and organisations that can contribute to the development of the programmes. The partnership has two levels, a consultative committee (Nationell samrådskommitté) and a group of experts.

The consultative committee consists of representatives from the responsible authorities of all four SOLID funds. The expert group is at the moment unique for the Integration Fund and consists of some mutual experts from the European Refugee Fund as well as some experts relevant to the European Integration Fund. The expert group is composed of people representing bodies such as researchers in the field of integration, ethnology and religion and culture, Non-Governmental organisations, County Administrative Boards (Länsstyrelser), The Migration Board, The National Labour Office (Arbetsförmedlingen nationellt) and The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sveriges Kommuner & Landsting).



The task of the consultative committee is to comment on overall issues relating to the implementation of the programme. The group of experts will ensure the transparency of the programme activities and assist in the selection of projects. The experts will participate in the selection and drafting process, i.e. comment on the relevance of the project applications on the basis of the Integration Fund's annual and multiannual programmes and the national context. An additional role of the group will be to ensure that the results are utilised by participating in the strategic dissemination and impact work.

### **Calls and publicising the Integration Fund**

All projects and actions will be chosen through open call for proposals, and the call for 2010 is scheduled to March 2010. Several information activities will be carried out in connection with the calls, for example on the ESF Council's website and intranet (the ESF council has 8 regional offices with extensive contacts in the respective regions and can help to spread information) and in the form of information meetings tailored to the needs and interests of target groups, personal consultation and electronic newsletters. A written circular if needed will also be sent stakeholders. A visibility event is scheduled for the autumn of 2010, if possible it will be a joint event for all the SOLID funds in Sweden.

A fact sheet been produced that describes the objectives and priorities of the Integration Fund. The fact sheet also provides general information and advice on the application procedure, contact information and information on the final application date.

The material required for applications and the implementation of projects are published on the website: [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se), e.g. application form, application guide, financial handbook, accounting and reporting templates as well as general information and documents on the agenda of the European Integrations policy, and the Swedish integration policy.

A list of final beneficiaries, name of projects, the total amount of community and national contribution will be made public at: [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) .

Chapter 5, articles 32-35 of the Commission decision of 5 March 2008 laying down rules for implementation of Council decision 2007/435/EC will be fully respected.



### **Administration and selection**

Applications will be officially registered at the Swedish ESF Council and receipt of the applications will be confirmed. An assessment of whether the application complies with the basic formal requirements will be carried out by the handling officer at the regional office in Stockholm using a checklist for the criteria of the EIF. Additions for the purposes of clarification or for formal reasons will be accepted, but additions of substantially new material will not. The desk officer for the Integration fund will conduct a qualitative assessment of the project's operating and finance plan, as well an assessment of whether the activities in the project are compatible with the decisions made by the Commission, the minimum criteria from the basic act and the call for proposal and current call for proposal. A separate assessment of the project budgets will be conducted by an economist financial project control at the ESF Council who will report in writing to the official assigned to the projects concerned.

The experts will assess the quality of project proposals on the basis of the programme, national needs and the calls for proposals, as well as on the basis of the minimum criteria stipulated in the Council decision. A checklist has been developed for the experts. The experts will then draw up assessment memos in which they briefly present their assessments. A priority meeting takes place, where all the projects, which comply with the criteria, and a priority list is produced. The priority list and the experts' memos provide the basis for the desk officer's final assessment together with the financial data and information. The desk officer will draw up a priority list for the project proposals that takes the assessments of the experts into account. The regional programme manager at the Stockholm office decide which projects are granted or not up to an amount of SEK 10 000 0000. In cases where the amount is over SEK 10 000 000 the decision will be taken by the General Director of the ESF-council. Reasons for granting or rejection are stated for all of the decisions made. Applicants will then be notified.

Those whose applications are approved will confirm the decision with the regional programme manager at the ESF Council, and will be called to a so called agreement/information meeting where all the conditions for the project is stated. Those whose applications are rejected will be informed in a letter that states the reasons for the rejection.

If significant changes are made in terms of budget, duration or project plan, an amendment may be decided upon during the project period. This new decision must refer to the original decision. The changes must not significantly alter the objectives or purpose of the project.



## **2. Changes in the management and control system**

A revised version of the description of management and control system was submitted to the Commission in February 092010. .

## **3. Actions to be supported by the programme under the priorities chosen**

Actions shall take in to account the development areas specified in the multiannual programme.

### ***Intercultural and inter-religious dialogue***

To date, Swedish integration policy has taken religious and cultural aspects into account to only a limited extent with regard to the meeting between immigrants and the majority population. The ability to discuss and handle central values and social, cultural and existential issues in religious terms is often lacking in secular society. Religious communities, new and old, can play an important role here in establishing fruitful meetings between the majority and minority populations, between different faiths and between these and secular society.

### ***Civics and information about society – basic values***

To date, information about society has been offered to new arrivals by the municipalities, for example in connection with Swedish language training for immigrants. A review of this issue is currently in progress. The County Administrative Boards are ordered by the government to execute a review of this area which result will be presented in December 2009. Civics training focuses on the knowledge and skills needed to live on equal terms in society as an active and participating citizen with responsibilities and the power to determine the course of one's own life.

### ***Family – upbringing – socialisation – alternative arenas and networks***

A significant part of the introduction of new arrivals into society takes place in practice through the family, relatives and ethnic networks. Members of the target groups of relevance to the Integration Fund – both young and old – are in particular introduced and socialised outside the formal system, partly in what are called parallel



societies. Only limited research has been conducted on these so-called alternative arenas and networks for socialisation and introduction and little is known about their relation to, and impact on, the formal systems.

### ***Informal integration and earning systems – incentive structures***

The so-called parallel societies frequently comprise well-developed informal earning and integration systems. Incentives to move over to formal and regular systems may often be weak. Little research has been conducted on this, but it is a factor that has a major impact on value patterns, social cohesion and, ultimately, integration. On the other hand, ethnic networks, family ties and economies offer a potential for self-organisation and empowerment that should be realised.

### ***Young people with a foreign background***

Young immigrants in segregated areas and schools can in some cases both create and fall into subcultures, sometimes in a conflict-ridden position between traditional cultural and value patterns and Swedish society. A measure of the situation of young people on the labour market is the percentage of individuals in the 15–24 age group who do not work or study. During the last quarter of 2009, unemployment among young people in Sweden was 24.4 percent. Unemployment among young people born outside of Sweden was 31.8 percent.<sup>1</sup>

### ***Criminality, class, culture and ethnicity***

Extremely segregated areas may be marked by exclusion, subcultures and, in some cases, criminality. Research reports and enquiries have often claimed that these problems are in large part due to so-called structural discrimination.<sup>2</sup> The causes are probably more complex however, and a more multi-faceted analysis is required as a starting point for future efforts in the relevant policy areas. Here too, there are links to the development of parallel societies and earning systems mentioned above.

### ***Health***

Previous project experience from, for example, Equal and the European Refugee Fund has demonstrated the importance of good health for the successful integration of individuals in working life and society as a whole. The state of health of new arrivals is often poor and the Swedish healthcare system finds it difficult to respond to the complex needs for care and health information that exist. Health communication, that

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<sup>1</sup> *Integrationspolitikens resultat (Results of Integration Policy)*, series of reports from the Swedish Integration Board, 2007:05.

<sup>2</sup> See for example SOU 2006:79



is the meeting and communication that takes place between patients and care providers, is an important development area; preventive healthcare is another.

### **Purpose and scope of the actions**

The Swedish Integration Fund has been granted limited financial means. The project setup and construction of strategic goals as well as connection to other, larger programmes with integration content, will therefore be significant in order to reach a good result. In the council decision of June 25, 2007 it is stipulated that actions financed by the Integration fund shall be specific and act as additions to the actions financed through the Social Fund and the Refugee Fund. Since 1983, EU has identified so called theme years. Year 2010 is the year of fighting poverty and social exclusion. The ESF Council have been appointed to be managing authority. Projects in the Integration Fund preferably can be a complement to and cooperate with above mentioned programmes.

### ***National Policy***

The government has defined a strategy for the national integration policies, empowerment against social exclusion. The following focus areas exist:

- An effective system for receiving and introduction of new arrivals
- More people working and more entrepreneurs
- Enhanced training results and equality at school
- Enhanced language skills and educational opportunities for adults
- Effectiveness in fighting discrimination
- Positive development in city areas with high degree of social exclusion.
- Common values in a society governed by an increasing level of diversity

On September 11, 2009 the Integration and Equality department suggested a referral of legislation containing a new law regarding establishment of support to certain new arrivals. The new law is suggested to contain rules regarding responsibility and actions to facilitate and speed up certain new arrival's establishment in work and society. The reason for establishment actions is to give new arrivals better opportunities to self-sufficiency and strengthen their active partaking in work and society. It is furthermore suggested that the state's responsibility is regulated by law. A new actor – establishment guide – shall facilitate and speed up the new arrival's integration in work society. The new law of establishment actions for certain new arrivals and other legislation changes is suggested to be in place December 1, 2010. The new legislation is not applicable to new arrival third country citizens identified as such by the council's decision as per June 25, 2007, for the Integration fund, but actions directed to the Integration fund target groups could be a complement to the national policy. It is crucial that successful methodology and processes are spread so that successful cross-



breeding is done between EU funds and the national policy target groups and focus areas.

***Specific priorities in all actions***

Sweden has a well developed *general* system for the introduction and integration of third-country nationals. There are, however, severe flaws in the system when it comes to *specific categories* of TCNs and certain components of the system are lagging behind. Optimising the use of the scarce resources in the European Integration Fund in Sweden implies therefore to concentrate the interventions to these *specific areas/critical points*.



## Actions that implement Priority 1

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### **PRIORITY 1: Implementation of actions designed to put the 'Common Basic Principles for immigrant integration policy in the European Union' into practice**

Of special priority are projects under Priority 1 that entail:

**Specific priority 1:** Participation as a means of promoting the integration of third-country nationals in society

Actions involving the participation of third-country nationals in the formulation and *implementation of integration policies and measures.*

**Specific priority 2:** Particular target groups

Actions, including introduction programmes and activities, whose main and targeted objective is to address specific needs of particular groups, such as women, youth and children, illiterate persons and persons with disabilities.

**Specific priority 4:** Intercultural dialogue

Actions aimed at encouraging mutual interaction and exchange, such as developing intercultural dialogue, in an effort in particular, to resolve any potential conflict caused by differences in cultural or religious practices, and thus to ensure the better integration of third-country nationals in the societies, values and ways of life of member states.

Actions under Priority 1 should, within the framework of the strategy for national integration policy, contribute to the implementation of the 11 basic principles for integration at the regional and local levels in Sweden. The actions under priority should also stimulate reflection on, and discussion of, the basic common principles locally, regionally and nationally.

Specific priorities will be highlighted under different actions.

### **Action 1: Cooperation at different levels to utilise the project results**

In simple terms, cooperation is about formalised cooperation between various actors with the goal to make mutual development work more efficient. A wide range of



actors is important. It may also be a matter of involving those actors which are strategically important in order to strengthen the possibilities to achieve more long term results in the project work.

All the key actions in Action 1 should support the implementation of the specific priority 1: The participation of third-country nationals on all levels of the activities in the action 1 through their representation in the different groups and cooperation mechanisms and/or through hearings and focus group meetings. In validating, assessing and utilizing the project results the role of the target group/beneficiaries is of special importance.

### ***Objectives and area of application of the action***

#### **The aim is:**

- to enhance the knowledge of the 11 common basic principles of integration in Sweden across the different levels of administration and for organisations involved in the integration of third country nationals;
- to enhance the knowledge of the common principles among other organisations affecting or influencing the public opinion;
- to secure the participation of third-country nationals at all levels of the activities in the action 1 through their representation in the different groups and collaboration mechanisms and/or through hearings and focus group meetings.

#### **The basic principles which will be specifically promoted are the following:**

- Basic Principle 6. Access for immigrants to institutions, as well as to public and private goods and services, on a basis equal to national citizens and in a non-discriminatory way is a critical foundation for better integration.
- Basic Principle 7. Frequent interaction between immigrants and Member State citizens is a fundamental mechanism for integration. Shared forums, inter-cultural dialogue, education about immigrants and immigrant cultures, and stimulating living conditions in urban environments enhance the interactions between immigrants and Member State citizens.
- Basic Principle 9. The participation of immigrants in the democratic process and in the formulation of integration policies and measures, especially at the local level, supports their integration.



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**Key actions:**

- A key action at the central level, if feasible, is the setting up of an inter-departmental reference group in the Government Offices in order to enforce the implementation of the common basic principles. The group may include Government officials from the Ministries of Integration, Employment, Education & training, Culture and Social Affairs. The representation of third-country nationals will be ensured through the participation of migrant organisations involved in projects on the ground. The results and products from the projects will be analysed and discussed (after a process of validation) and be used as an input for the policy making of the Ministries concerned. (A similar model has been used in the European Social Fund in Sweden)
- At the regional level, the equivalent collaboration will be developed involving the County Administrative Board (having a key role in the integration policy and the introduction of newly arrived migrants in Sweden since 2007), municipalities and voluntary organisations. The representation of third-country nationals will be ensured through the participation of persons from migrant organisations, being already involved in projects on the ground. The results and products from the projects will be analysed and discussed and be used as an input for the policy making on regional level (after a process of validation). The role of TCNs will also be as members of auditing/validation meetings/groups, having an important position as experts in the assessment of project results and products; a method for this “target group auditing” will be developed.
- At the local level, collaboration between the public sector, business and industry and voluntary organisations should be promoted with support from the Integration Fund. The representation of third-country nationals will be ensured through the participation of persons from migrant organisations, being already involved in projects on the ground. The results and products from the projects will be analysed and discussed and be used as an input for the policy making on local level (after a process of validation). The role of TCNs will also be as members of auditing/validation meetings/groups, having an important position as experts in the assessment of project results and products.
- Actions to motivate and initiate such collaboration at different levels, and to identify good practices, assess and validate projects results etc are key components in the dissemination and mainstreaming process and in implementing the CBPs in



Sweden. This also includes the organisation of seminars and conferences for relevant players with the aim of disseminating knowledge about the common basic principles, their role in the national strategy for integration policy and the tools for applying them.

- Actions supporting a common development of knowledge to facilitate a broader use of results from Integration fund projects, so called main streaming.

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients under this action could be county administrative board, municipal associations, municipalities, county councils, NGOs, business and industry.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

During the programme period:

- Three forums for collaboration will have been created with the aim of analysing, discussing, validating and disseminating project results as follows:
- May include the setting up of an inter-departmental reference group in the Government Offices including migrant organisation participation..
- The setting up of a regional group in at least one county in Sweden, including migrant organisation participation.;
- The setting up of a local group in at least three municipalities/cities in Sweden, including the participation of migrant organisations.;
- The development of a method for “target group auditing” of project processes and results. (The active involvement of TCNs in development and in carrying out assessment of project results, taking into account the view-point of TCNs.)
- Organising at least 5 seminars for dissemination of project results involving migrant organisations.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.



### ***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35). Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

### ***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

### ***Financial information***

57,77 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 9,66per cent (240 000 euro) for this action.

## **Action 2: Civic education and information about society**

All the key actions in Action 2 shall support the implementation of the specific priority 2: Actions, including introduction programmes and activities, whose main and targeted objective is to address specific needs of particular groups, such as women, youth and children, poor educational background/illiterate persons and persons with disabilities.

### **Objectives**

Civic education is primarily a question of a value perspective rather than of the transfer of information. In Sweden the projects in this area will develop and implement new methods and materials. One point of departure is the results of finalized projects in e.g. ERF whose results can be adapted and then be disseminated nationally.



### ***Objectives and area of application***

#### **The aim is:**

- To identify the needs of specific target groups – women, single parents, and persons with poor educational background/illiterates;
- to implement the specific priority 2 through targeted and adapted measures – in civic education and information about society – for the selected groups of newly arrived (and other) third-country nationals; this groups include women, single parents and persons with poor educational background/illiterates among others;
- to improve the Swedish system for civic education in the framework of the introduction and language tuition for the specific target groups with special needs described above.

#### **The basic principles which will be specifically promoted are the following:**

- Basic Principle 4. Basic knowledge of the host society's language, history, and institutions is indispensable to integration; enabling immigrants to acquire this basic knowledge is essential to successful integration.
- Basic Principle 5. Efforts in education are critical to preparing immigrants, and particularly their descendants, to be more successful and more active participants in society.

#### **Key actions:**

- Needs analysis to identify the needs of the specific target groups – women, single parents and persons with poor educational background/illiterates;
- the development and testing of tailor-made and adapted civic education courses and focus group meetings for the specific categories of TCNs;
- the development and testing of information material and pedagogical tools in connection with language training and introduction programmes as well as in the primary and secondary schools, for young people and adults from the specific target groups (the experiences from i.e. earlier ERF-projects where children and their low-educated/illiterate parents were brought together in joint projects and “classes” shall be further developed);

#### ***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients may be the municipalities, adult educational associations, training providers and County Administrative Boards.



***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

By the end of the programme period:

- Trials regarding the introduction of adapted civic education as a component/introduction training programmes or as a specific course for the selected categories of newly arrived TCNs e.g. women, children, youths, single parents, persons with poor educational background/illiterates, will have been conducted in 5 new municipalities, and continuous testing in 5 municipalities from year 2007.
- 60 percent of the third country nationals falling under the specific target groups taking part in the trial courses will be satisfied with the content;
- 3 tailor-made models/sets of course material for civic education should be produced and tested.

***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Councils. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35) Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

***Financial information***

57,77 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 13,91 per cent (345 806,06 euro) for this action.



### **Action 3: The health of new arrivals/third-country nationals**

All the key actions in Action 3 shall support the implementation of the specific priority 2: Actions, including introduction programmes and activities, whose main and targeted objective is to address specific needs of particular groups, such as women, youth and children, elderly people, illiterate persons and persons with disabilities.

#### **Objectives**

The state of health of third-country nationals has been addressed in previous EU programmes and projects. From these finalized projects there are valuable lessons to be learnt based on the experience and knowledge gained. Projects under this priority should therefore utilise and further develop the experience gained and the concepts and methods developed to improve the health of immigrants and new arrivals.

#### **The aim is:**

- Give special attention to certain vulnerable groups among third-country nationals: the elderly, people on a disability pension, women and those with a limited education.
- Focus on the communication between healthcare personnel and (newly-arrived) third-country nationals from the specific target groups and the attitudes of the personnel to such patients.
- Reduce the excessive or incorrect consumption of healthcare by the specific target groups of TCNs due to a lack of information or knowledge on the part of providers and/or patients, the lack of information about how these categories of TCNs can themselves preserve and promote their own health and the clarification of cultural components in healthcare.

#### **The basic principles which will be specifically promoted are the following:**

- Mainstreaming integration policies and measures in all relevant policy portfolios and levels of government and public services is an important consideration in public-policy formation and implementation.
- This action is specifically targeted to implement principle 10 of the common basic principles of integration. This principle is chosen since there is a need to apply an integration perspective in the field of the health care and to take that into account when formulating future policies in this field.



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**Key actions:**

- Analysis of the needs of the specific target groups: women, single parents, elderly people and persons with poor educational background/illiterates;
- actions to improve the health of third-country nationals/new arrivals belonging to the target groups mentioned above;
- to facilitate their access to the Swedish health care system by setting up a centre or forum for health information for third country nationals targeting the specific groups of TCNs;
- train health information staff or produce information material targeting the selected groups of third country nationals on health issues.

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients may include homes for the elderly, municipalities, county councils, the National Labour Office and private and public healthcare institutions. The health care in Sweden is financially a responsibility for the county councils. The health care services in Sweden can be delivered by public or private entities.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

By the end of the programme period:

- One module for how to receive third-country nationals in the health care sector, taking into account the special needs of the specific target groups, should be developed and tested.
- Three projects should create a model on how to work with health related issues aimed at the specific target groups (see above).
- One training curriculum for health information staff should be produced and published, including specific information and materials adapted to the needs of the above mentioned target groups.
- One information package for health information for third-country nationals should be produced and published, including specific information and materials adapted to the needs of the above mentioned target groups.



***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35) Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

***Financial information***

57,77 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 11,67 per cent (290 000 euro) for this action.

**Action 4: Intercultural and inter-religious dialogue**

All the key actions in Action 4 should support the implementation of the specific priority 4.

***Objectives***

The starting point for this action is the obvious fact that we all are sources of knowledge, both as individuals and as collaborators in social networks. The joint development of knowledge requires the creation of arenas and forums for this purpose. In such arenas, knowledge and understanding can be developed through dialogue



marked by mutual respect for each other and for each others' culture, ethnicity and potential exclusion.

Projects in this area should, as above, be based on questions raised within the remit of national integration policy, for example about the role of religion in minority and majority groups in society and about values, life choices and living patterns among new arrivals from other cultures and how greater mutual understanding can be achieved by means of an intercultural/inter-religious dialogue.

**The aim is:**

- To improve knowledge and mutual understanding through dialogue between third country nationals in Sweden and the majority society;
- To establish close links to the Government's recently launched initiative on a dialogue designed to promote and strengthen the development of common basic values. Taking into account the strong need for establishing these forums and the cooperation and potential synergy with the Governments initiative for a reinforced dialogue (see above) this action is of greatest importance, introducing also the Common Basic Principles on integration in a national context;
- To disseminate models, results and concepts on a national level;
- To have the projects based on a dialogue between representatives of the majority and minority groups in society.

**The basic principles which will be specifically promoted are the following:**

This action is specifically targeted to implement principles 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 of the common basic principles of integration.

- Basic Principle 1. Integration is a dynamic, two-way process of mutual accommodation by all immigrants and residents of Member States.
- Basic Principle 2. Integration implies respect for the basic values of the European Union.
- Basic Principle 7. Frequent interaction between immigrants and Member State citizens is a fundamental mechanism for integration. Shared forums, inter-cultural dialogue, education about immigrants and immigrant cultures, and stimulating living conditions in urban environments enhance the interactions between immigrants and Member State citizens.
- Basic Principle 8. The practice of diverse cultures and religions is guaranteed under the Charter of Fundamental Rights and must be safeguarded, unless practices conflict with other inviolable European rights or with national law.
- Basic Principle 9. The participation of immigrants in the democratic process and in the formulation of integration policies and measures, especially at the local level, supports their integration.

**Key actions:**

- To develop a model for and establish arenas and forums for dialogue established by voluntary and target-group organisations and municipalities (within the framework of Swedish language training programmes, primary and secondary schools, adult education, folk high schools etc.),
- Establishment of forums in and by religious communities, immigrant organisations and study associations or at workplaces, healthcare institutions, homes for the elderly or prisons, or in connection with leisure or sport organisations.

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients are immigrant organisations, voluntary organisations, research institutes and municipalities. The target groups consist of third-country nationals, immigrant organisations, voluntary organisations, religious communities, immigrants and members of the majority population, including pupils, teachers, employees, patients and staff.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

By the end of the programme period:

- Three new platforms/forums for joint knowledge development will have been established
- A method for intercultural and inter-religious dialogue will have been developed and tested in five social sectors. More than 5 organisations from different target groups have been engaged in the intercultural and interreligious dialogue
- At least five organisations from different target groups have participated in intercultural and inter-religious dialogue

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.



### **Visibility of EC funding**

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35). Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

### **Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments**

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

### **Financial information**

57,77 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 11,67 per cent (290 000 euro) for this action.

### **Action 5: Empowerment**

*All the key actions in Action 5 should support the implementation of the specific priority 1.*

### **Objectives**

The word empowerment correspond to the Swedish word "egenmakt" and aims at the empowerment of an individual in an organization, state or other group so that the individual feel he is control of his or her situation, work, near environment and so on. Better opportunities to third country citizens are crucial to highlight the needs for this group in society.

Considerable success has been reached all over Europe in development work where focus has been placed on the human capability, where women and men take charge over their lives, on an individual- group or on a social level. This process is enabled by creation of situations in which the participants were able to see and realize their own



potential. In successful Swedish projects with other objectives and aims than in Integration Fund projects the participants have themselves integrated and established in the Swedish society through self employment or through cooperation in social enterprises.

**The aim is:**

- To use empowerment strategies and methods for enhancing the participation of third-country nationals in the integration policies and systems and their participation in the local community;
- To develop methods and systems to adapt and reuse these results from projects on *empowerment* also for integration of people of other ethnical background than the majority population. Ethnic enterprising, housing- and urban development can be a platform for integration in the Swedish society;
- To complement and improve the introduction programmes for new arrivals by involving former migrants/ compatriots in the programmes, in this way empowering both the former migrants already established in the country as well as the newly arrived - and using the participation of third country nationals as a means for integration.
- Actions consisting of the development and strengthening of the capacity of the target group in taking control of their own lives, through using different kind of empowerment methods and strategies, will implement the specific priority 1.

**The basic principles which will be specifically promoted are the following:**

- Basic Principle 3. Employment is a key part of the integration process and is central to the participation of immigrants, to the contributions immigrants make to the host society, and to making such contributions visible.
- Basic Principle 9. The participation of immigrants in the democratic process and in the formulation of integration policies and measures, especially at the local level, supports their integration.

**Key actions:**

- Development of introduction programmes with the involvement of TCNs (former migrants already living in the Sweden/migrant organisations) in both the design and implementation of the programmes, as a component in a empowerment process;
- Involving TCNs as experts in the auditing and validation of project processes and results as a part of an empowerment process;
- Using the intercultural dialogue and focus group meetings as a means for empowering (and modernising the social values in) the families, specially women



and children. This action implements also the specific priority 4, the intercultural dialogue.

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients include immigrant organisations, voluntary organisations, co-operative development bodies and municipalities.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

- Five activities that develop the current methods of empowerment to be adapted to (newly arrived) third country nationals should have been carried out in following areas: Introduction programmes, project validation and assessment, intercultural dialogue, focus group meetings, co-operatives.

***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35). Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.



### **Financial information**

57,77 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 10,86 per cent (270 000 euro) for this action.

### **3.2 Actions that implement Priority 2**

#### **PRIORITY 2:**

#### **Development of indicators and evaluation methods to assess progress, adapt policy and measures and promote the co-ordination of comparative learning.**

Sweden has already developed a system of indicators for following up the situation of people with a foreign background, which includes foreign citizens/third-country nationals, refugees and people who have acquired Swedish citizenship.

There is, however, a lack of evaluation methods that address the economic effects of, for example, integration measures. Methods for conducting and compiling cost-benefit analyses and socioeconomic accounts for such measures in various social fields should therefore be developed and used. Co-ordinating mechanisms for follow-up, evaluation, dissemination and impact activities with regard to project results in various EU programmes, so called learning platforms, have existed to only a limited extent in Sweden.

#### **Action 6**

##### **Objectives**

The aim is to develop methods and instruments that complement existing indicators in the integration field. Enhanced capacity on national, regional and local levels is an important prerequisite for the implementation of a common and coordinated integration policy based on the common principles. The various efforts need to be co-ordinated and there is also a need to process the results from the Integration Fund, but also from the Social Fund and the Refugee Fund in order to develop complementary methods and processes to existing indicators within the area of integration. This work should then form the basis for validation, evaluation, dissemination and impact activities. The analysis will provide comparative learning and also enable assessments of the economic benefits of the integration measures taken as a basis for determining which measures should be applied in the course of regular operations.



**The aim is:**

- To establish learning and knowledge platforms for the utilisation and refinement of project results and system impact. The platforms will also enable the co-ordination of follow-up, evaluation, and validation, as well as the development of indicators and evaluation methods that, for example, relating to economic aspects.
- To develop methods and instruments that complement existing indicators in the integration field.
- To establish close links to the national thematic network on integration in the Social Fund
- To develop models for socioeconomic accounts for integration measures, which can be used both on a national and regional level.
- To monitor and study the effects on the newly adopted law on labour immigration<sup>3</sup> in the area of integration.
- That integration measures are subjected to cost-benefit analyses
- To disseminate studies, models and result on a national level
- That the results are made available to new users by means of new methods and instruments for follow-up and evaluation with the help of cohesive learning and knowledge platforms.

All of the 11 common basic principals are relevant for priority 2, but the following principal will specially be promoted:

- Principle 11: Developing clear goals, indicators and evaluation mechanisms are necessary to adjust policy, evaluate progress on integration and to make the exchange of information more effective

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators:***

By the end of the programme period:

- Establishment of at least one comprehensive learning and knowledge platform which will support projects in the Integration Fund as well as work with the follow-up of project results, evaluation, and validation, as well as the development of indicators.
- Two to three yearly seminars on questions regarding assessment of integration policies of third country nationals within the scope of priority 1.
- Development of a validation and assessment method/ good practice for project result in a long term perspective.
- Development of a method for dissemination of project results, including the establishment of three to four networks, which consists of projects from the Integration Fund and possibly projects from the European Refugee Fund and

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/9685/a/90346>



the European Social Fund, in the area of integration for third country nationals. At least 50 % of the projects are expected to take part in a network.

- Implementation of at least four studies in the area of assessment of integration policy of third country nationals, including one study of the effects of the newly adopted law on labor immigration.
- A study on integration indicators that complement the existing ones.
- The development of one or two models for social-economic accounts

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible grant recipients may be research institutes, municipalities and consultancies.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirements to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It is possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35) Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

***Financial information***

28,42 per cent (471 000 euro) of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 2, and 28,42 per cent for this action.



### 3.3 Actions that implement Priority 3

#### Priority 3:

Not selected in Sweden.

### 3.4 Actions that implement Priority 4

#### **PRIORITY 4: Exchange of experience, good practice and information on integration between the Member States**

Of special priority are projects under Priority 4 that entail:

**Specific priority 1:** Participation as a means of promoting the integration of third-country nationals in society Actions involving the participation of third-country nationals in the formulation and implementation of integration policies and measures.

#### **Action 7: Transnationality**

Sweden's exchange with other Member States on integration issues has been relatively limited to date. The dynamic development and intensive debate that has taken place regarding these issues in other member states and organisations at the EU level has elicited only a limited response in Sweden. Priority 4 is therefore of particular relevance to future development work in Sweden. It is anticipated that many of the applicants already have transnational contacts, for example leading NGOs through their own organisations or through European council for refugees and exiles (ECRE)<sup>4</sup>, religious bodies and municipalities for example through Euro Cities<sup>5</sup> and regional offices in Brussels. Relevant information can be found on the Commission web site for integration: [www.integration.eu](http://www.integration.eu). *The projects will be selected by an open call for proposal.*

#### **Objectives**

##### **The aim is:**

- to involve and engage players at the local, regional and central levels in an exchange of experience and mutual learning with other member states in order, at

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ecre.org>

<sup>5</sup> [www.eurocities.org](http://www.eurocities.org)



a strategic level, to gain an increased understanding of, and receptivity to, new, alternative ideas and concepts;

- to establish close co-operation with the transnational activities within the European Social Fund and its projects and add further value to the respective programmes. In this context, the Swedish ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place;
- to implement the specific priority 1 by involving third-country nationals in the above mentioned exchange events, training courses and joint projects, especially through the participation of transnational/pan-European immigrant organizations in different Member States; for many immigrant groups there already exists strong networks in Europe which could be used and developed for this purpose.
- to engage projects from Priority 1 where the transnational part of the project is financed by priority 4, but also to engage stand alone transnational projects.

**Key actions:**

- Exchange of information and experience.
- Joint training courses, analysis and surveys and methods testing.
- Transfer (or adaptation) of successful models between countries or regions.
- Projects with joint work plans and joint implementation on equal terms.
- More extensive exchanges between projects.

***Expected grant recipients:***

Possible players in this area may be: county administrative boards, municipalities and voluntary organisations.

***If the project or projects are carried out directly by the authority responsible as an executive body, explain why:***

Not applicable to the European Integration Fund in Sweden.

***Expected quantifiable results and indicators***

By the end of the programme period:

- At least 20 percent of the projects supported by the Integration Fund under Priority 1 will have been involved in transnational activities for learning and exchanges between projects and players in different Member States.
- 50 persons, involved in the projects, including TCNs from Sweden shall have taken part in qualitative transnational cooperation.
- 5 methods from other Member States should have been transferred and implemented after being adapted to a Swedish context.



### ***Visibility of EC funding***

All grant recipients will be informed of the requirement to make it clear both verbally and in writing that the European Integration Fund is a co-funder of their projects. Special information material on this will be produced as well as signs that should be placed in full view. This information will be the subject of a decision that must be confirmed by the grant recipients. The demand for the presentation of clear information about the Integration Fund will be followed up in the audits and this will also be included in the decision. It will be possible to download EU logotypes from the website of the Swedish ESF Council. [www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se) (05/III/2008 art. 32-35). Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

### ***Complementarity with similar actions funded by other EU instruments***

In Sweden, the Integration Fund has been allocated limited funds. The orientation and design of the projects and their links to other, more extensive programmes with integration components will therefore be of central importance to achieving good results. In this context, the ESF Council will carefully check that duplicate funding does not take place.

### ***Financial information***

8,05 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 4, and 8,05 per cent (200 000 euro) for this action.

## **4. Technical assistance**

### **4.1. The purpose of the technical assistance**

The administration funds will be used to ensure the best possible implementation of the programme at the national level. The funds will be used to provide high-quality and effective management and to ensure that administrative systems for financial follow-up are in place. Great emphasis will be placed on complementarity and, to the extent this is possible, on evaluation and strategic impact activities. The short project period makes preparation and planning ahead of applications and project start-ups particularly important.

**The technical assistance will cover expenditures in relation to:**



- Preparations, selection procedures, evaluation, management and monitoring of measures including the national partnership with adjoining expert group
- Control of projects on site
- Evaluation of measures or/and projects
- Investigations, evaluations, reports written by experts, statistics and actions of regular kind regarding the fund activities
- Action aiming at informing the member states, the final beneficiaries and the public e.g. actions to gain attention and a database for projects financed by the fund
- Information, dissemination and control in relation to measures
- Acquisition, installation, and maintenance of computerized systems for the monitoring, administration and evaluation of the EIF
- Attending of SOLID meetings, and bilateral co-operation including experts when appropriate.
- Salaries and employment tax for officials appointed to administer the EIF, and other personnel employed to perform above mention measures(05/III/2008 annex 11 chapter 5)
- Actions to inform and educate the responsible authority
- Organisation of a dissemination and visibility seminar/conference to display the Integration fund project results in the autumn of 2010 targeted to the general public. If applicable the event will be common to the four funds in the SOLID-programme. Art.33(2)(a)

#### **4.2. Expected quantifiable results**

- Selection of projects has been carried out following completion of calls.
- Follow-up of all projects has been carried out, for example by means of visits “on site”.
- Management and administrative routines have been further developed to achieve efficiency and reliable handling.
- The system for the follow-up of the projects has been further developed.
- Collaboration with other funds and grant providers has been part of the implementation of the programme.
- Projects have been inspected.
- Interim reports and final reports have been submitted.
- Results and good examples have been disseminated to appropriate players.
- Organisation of a dissemination/visibility seminar/conference to display the Integration fund project results in the autumn of 2010 targeted to the general public. If applicable the event will be common to the four funds in the SOLID-programme. Art.33(2)(a)



### **4.3. Visibility of EC funding**

The documentation and material from the Swedish ESF Council that the European Integration Fund is funded by the EU. In the reports submitted by the authority, for example the annual report to the Government, there will be a separate section on the Integration Fund in which it is made clear that funding comes from the EU. The EU logotype will be used in all the information issued about the Integration Fund, for example fact sheets. Project owners will be able to download the EU logotype in different formats from the website of the ESF Council. Projects, which are granted co-financing by the Integration Fund, will receive a kit of display material to use during the project period. It will also be possible to order additional material from The ESF-council.

### ***Financial information***

5,76 per cent (190 835 euro) of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Technical Assistance.



## 5. Draft financing plan

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan								
Table 1 – Overview table								
Member State: Sweden								
Annual programme concerned: Year 2010								
Fund: European Fund for Integration of third country nationals								
	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)			
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>								
Action 1:	1	1	240 000	80 000	0	320 000	75 %	9,66%
Action 2:	1	2	345 806,06	115 269	0	461 075,06	75 %	13,91 %
Action 3:	1	2	290 000	96 666	0	386 666	75 %	11.67 %
Action 4:	1	4	290 000	96 666	0	386 666	75 %	11.67 %
Action 5:	1	1	270 000	90 000	0	360 000	75 %	10.86 %
Action 6:	2		471 000	471 000	0	942 000	50 %	28,42 %
Action 7:	4	1	200 000	66 666	0	266 666	75 %	8.05%
Technical assistance			190 835	0	0	190 834,87	100%	5.76%
TOTAL, incl.TA			2 297 641,06	1 016 267	0	3 313 908,06	69,33%(*)	100 %

The table is based on the assumption that all co financing will be public.  
(\* ) including technical assistance.