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Annual Programme 2007 European Integration Fund

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

In the document “Description of administration 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. 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 certifying authority.

The Council decision stipulates that a partnership should be set up. The ESF Council has decided to establish a partnership with the same composition as for the European Refugee Fund and the European Return Fund. This partnership will include the authorities that implement the programmes and organisations that can contribute to the development of the programmes. The partnership will have two levels, a consultative committee and a group of experts.

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 group of experts will consist of experts from the bodies represented on the consultative committee and from the Swedish Migration Board and the Swedish ESF Council. 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. 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 there will be one common call for 2007 and 2008. Several information activities will be carried out in connection with 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 will be sent to approx. 700 stakeholders. A launching of the MAP will take place in December 2008. See further: chapter 4:2.

A fact sheet will be produced that describes the objectives and priorities of the Integration Fund. The fact sheet will also provide 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 will be published on the website www.esf.se, e.g. application form, application guide, financial handbook, accounting and reporting templates.

A list of final beneficiaries, name of projects, the total amount of community and national contribution will be made public at: 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 using a checklist. Additions for the purposes of clarification or for formal reasons will be accepted, but additions of substantially new material will not. The relevant official 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. A separate assessment of the project budgets will be conducted by economists 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 and the calls for proposals, as well as on the basis of the minimum criteria stipulated in



the Council decision. The experts will use a checklist for this. The experts will then draw up assessment memos in which they briefly present their assessments. These memos will provide a basis for the official's final assessment together with the financial data and information. The official will draw up a priority list for the project proposals that takes the assessments of the experts into account. The regional programme manager will decide which projects should receive grants and which should be rejected. All decisions on project applications exceeding SEK 2 million will be taken by the national programme manager. Reasons must be stated for all of the decisions made. Applicants will then be notified of the decision made.

Those whose applications are approved will confirm the decision with the regional programme manager at the ESF Council. 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

No changes made.

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, that is:

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. 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 characterised by patriarchal attitudes and traditional values and cultures. 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 western modernity. A measure of the situation of young people on the labour market is the percentage of individuals in the 20–24 age group who do not work or study. In the case of young people born in Sweden this figure is 10 per cent. In the case of young people born in countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe outside the EU 15, the percentage of those that neither work nor study is up to three times higher. The highest percentage is among young people from countries in Africa. In absolute figures this concerns 50 000 young people who were born in Sweden and just over 10 000 who were born abroad. Between 2001 and 2004, the percentage of young men who neither work nor study increased, in particular in the case of young men from countries in Africa. Despite the fact that they



neither worked nor studied, between 30 and 50 per cent of the young people had never registered with an Employment Office.¹

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.² 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 is the meeting and communication that takes place between patients and care providers, is an important development area; preventive healthcare is another.

Priorities and actions

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*. The *specific priorities* in the EIF coincide with most of these critical points:

- The Swedish introduction and integration systems have been created from above in the frame of a long tradition of public interventions and *social engineering*. The target groups involved has only to a limited scope been able to influence the systems.
- Taking into account the general characteristics of the systems, there has been limited room for tailor-made, adapted measures for specific target groups.
- The emphasis on the so called structural discrimination as the main reason for the exclusion of TCNs (from the labour market and the society as a whole) has

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

² See for example SOU 2006:79



precluded a serious discussion in Sweden on the cultural and religious dimensions of the integration process as well as on common values, i.e. central issues in an intercultural dialogue.

Actions that implement Priority 1

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 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 principles will be highlighted under different actions.

Action 1: Collaboration at different levels to utilise the project results

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 collaboration 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 common basic principles 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 on 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:

- The basic principle 7 which highlights the co-operation and interplay between immigrants and the majority society.
- The principle 6 (immigrants access to public institutions and public and private goods and services). Under this action should activities to develop the access to services, to qualify and improve public and private employees ability to deliver services and to improve there attitudes be supported.
- The basic principle 9 on participation in the democratic process and in policy development.

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.

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 setting up of a regional group in at least one county in Sweden;
- setting up of a local group in at least three municipalities/cities in Sweden;
- development of a method for “target group auditing” of project processes and results
- Organising 5 seminars for dissemination of project results.

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. (art. 32-35)

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

68 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 14 per cent (113 000 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.

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 should develop and implement new methods and materials. One point of departure is the results of finalized projects in i.a. 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;
- to improve the Swedish system for civic education in the frame 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:

- The principles 4 and 5 are chosen since basic knowledge of the new country's language, history and institutions are important for successful integration. Education also gives access to the “new” 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.a. 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:

The key players in these projects may be the municipalities, adult educational associations and training providers.

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 in civic education/introduction training programmes or as a specific course for the selected categories of new arrivals (specific target groups) will have been conducted in 10 municipalities;
- 60 percent of the third country nationals 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 (art.32-35)

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

68 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 29 per cent (224 401 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.

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:

- 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.

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:

Key players in these projects may include homes for the elderly, municipalities and county councils 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.

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 (art. 32-35)



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

68 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 14 per cent (113 000 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.

- In principle 1 focus is on a dynamic, two-way process, that is fundamental for a dialogue;
- in principle 2 focus is on the basic values of the European Union;
- principles 7, 8 and 9 deal with mutual respect and understanding and dialogue.

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:

Key players for this action are third-country nationals, 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

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 (art: 32-35)

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

68 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 29 per cent (224 401 euro) for this action.

Action 5: Empowerment

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

Objectives

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:

- The principles 3 and 9 CBPs will be promoted. These have been chosen since empowerment and participation are important success factors of integration. Immigrants' active involvement in developing society needs to be highlighted. An active involvement in the local community can contribute to the development of integration and can lead to involvement in the local democratic process.

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:

Expected key players include third-country nationals, 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 (art.32-35)

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

68 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 1, and 14 per cent (113 000 euro) for this action.



3.2 Actions that implement Priority 2

This priority will not be addressed this year.

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.

All actions under priority 1 should include the specific priority 1 mentioned above.

Action 1: 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)³, religious bodies and municipalities for example through Euro Cities⁴ and regional offices in Brussels. The projects will be selected by an open call for proposal.

³ <http://www.ecre.org>

⁴ www.eurocities.org



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 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 50 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.
- 30 persons, involved in the projects, including TCNs from Sweden shall have taken part in qualitative transnational cooperation.
- 4 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 (article:32-35)

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

23 per cent of the resources of the Integration Fund will be used for Priority 4, and 100 per cent (263 000,92 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. They 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
- Control of projects on site
- Evaluation of measures or/and projects
- 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(annex 11 chapter 5)

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 developed further.
- 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.

4.3. Visibility of EC funding

It will be made clear in all 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.



5. Draft financial plan

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan								
Table 1 – Overview table								
Member State: Sweden								
Annual programme concerned: year 2007								
Fund: The European Integrations Fund for third country nationals								
	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d =a+b+c)	% EC (e = a/d)	Share of total (d/total d)
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>								
Action 1	1	1	113 000	38 000	0	151 000	75%	10%
Action 2	1	2	224 401	75 000	0	299 401	75%	20%
Action 3	1	2	113 000	38 000	0	151 000	75%	10%
Action 4	1	4	224 401	75 000	0	299 401	75%	20%
Action 5	1	1	113 000	38 000	0	151 000	75%	10%
Action 1	4	1	263 000,92	87 000	0	350 000,92	75%	23%
Technical assistance			111 000	0	0	111 000	100%	7%
TOTAL incl TA			1 161 802,92	351 000	0	1512 802,92	77%(*)	100%

(*) including Technical Assistance