

LIST OF AWARDED GRANTS

THE EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR) - COUNTRY-BASED SUPPORT SCHEME (occupied Palestinian territory)

Call for Proposals 2011 & 2012 Reference: EuropeAid/131-699/L/ACT/PS

1. THE EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR)

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in December 2006 under the Financial Perspectives 2007-2013. This new financing instrument is the successor to the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, established upon the initiative of the European Parliament in 1994. This thematic instrument, which entered into force on 1 January 2007, reflects the high political profile and specific Treaty mandates relating to the development and consolidation of democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and will bring financial support worldwide to activities in this area.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME AND PRIORITY ISSUES

The global general objectives of the new financing instrument are to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law, and of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, within the framework of the Community's policy on development cooperation, and economic, financial and technical cooperation with third countries, consistent with the EU's foreign policy as a whole.

This instrument aims at helping civil society to become an effective force for political reform and defence of human rights. In this way, it will complement the new generation of geographical programmes, which will increasingly mainstream democracy and human rights, though focusing primarily on public institution-building. The EIDHR will offer independence of action, allowing for the delivery of assistance in principle without the need for government consent, which is a critical feature of cooperation with civil society organizations at national level, especially in the sensitive areas of democracy and human rights. It also offers more flexibility and capacity to respond to changing circumstances or to support innovation.

The EIDHR is thus global in scope, operating at national, regional and international level, supporting actions in third countries around the globe, and also in Member States if relevant to needs in third countries.

The European Commission has drawn up a Strategy Paper 2007-2010 for the implementation action of the EIDHR. The EIDHR Strategy Paper identifies five distinct objectives, forming the response strategy for the period 2007-2010:

- 1) Enhancing respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in countries and regions where they are most at risk;
- 2) Strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform, in supporting the peaceful conciliation of group interests and consolidating political participation and representation;
- 3) Supporting actions on human rights and democracy issues in areas covered by EU Guidelines, including on human rights dialogues, on human rights defenders, on the death penalty, on torture, and on children and armed conflict;
- 4) Supporting and strengthening the international and regional framework for the protection of human rights, justice, the rule of law and the promotion of democracy;
- 5) Building confidence in and enhancing the reliability and transparency of democratic electoral processes, in particular through election observation.

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) Strategy Paper for the period 2007-2010 can be consulted at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/worldwide/eidhr/documents/eidhr-strategy-paper-2007_en.pdf

The **Country-Based Support Scheme** (CBSS) is built on the former experience with micro project facility under the previous European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights. CBSS is one of the EIDHR implementation modalities that aims at realizing Objective 2 of the EIDHR Strategy Paper and which will be managed at country level by European Commission Delegations and/ or Representations.

The recent Call for Proposals Ref. 128-214 corresponds to the **Country- Based Support Scheme (CBSS)** that aims at selecting actions as to implement **Objective 2 of the EIDHR Strategy Paper** entitled "*Strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform, in facilitating the peaceful conciliation of group interests and in consolidating political participation and representation.*"

Under Objective 2, the emphasis will be on assisting cooperation among local civil society organisations and stakeholders to develop greater cohesion in working on human rights, political pluralism and democratic political participation and representation, in contributing to the peaceful conciliation of group interests, combating discrimination on any ground, and in developing equal participation of men and women in social, economic and political life.

The **specific objective(s)** of the above-mentioned Call for Proposals are the thematic areas that were defined for eligible interventions and financial support:

- **Initiatives to monitor and raise awareness on the performance of public institutions**, improve transparency, accountability, quality of services, equal opportunity, cost efficiency, and in particular enhance the effectiveness of the judiciary and legal sector, including upholding the independence of the judiciary and promote civil society role in monitoring and

overseeing the security services' performances and practices with a particular emphasis on transparency and the respect of human rights.

- **Advancing the rights of marginalized groups** including *rights of women and rights of children*, support to promote advocacy, awareness-raising and training in the field of children's rights and women's rights relating to the signature, ratification and effective implementation of international agreements, instruments and commitments including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Support to effective institutional mechanisms to strengthen the advancement of gender equality and children's rights by integrating them in legislation, public policies, programs and projects is also encouraged. Furthermore, developing/improving measures to combat all forms of violence against children and women, such as domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, incest and sexual abuse. Equal participation of women in power, decision-making, planning process and integration of gender perspectives in legislation and public policies will be also encouraged.

- **Strengthening freedom of association:** in particular the free formation of professional association, trade unions and raising of public awareness about the role of this freedom in the democratic process. Support will be also provided to activities aiming at implementing and bringing national legislation into line with the respective international standards, raising awareness among decision-makers and establishing or empowering existing networks of information. Strengthening the capacity of human rights NGOs, platforms, coalitions and other civil society organizations and promoting efforts to enhance the ability of civil society stakeholders to become a sustainable force for positive change and reform and to engage in democratic governance, democratization and policy dialogue will be also encouraged.

- **Strengthening freedom of expression** including freedom of the media and access to the internet, fostering independent press and broadcasting, the abolishment of censorship, improving media professionalism and promoting adequate revision of communication/media legislations.

Specific activities in the field of **gender equality, the rights of the child and the rights of persons with disabilities** are particularly relevant. Such common agendas ensuring broad-based participation among civil society operators and networks is also much appreciated.

Specific attention is also given to activities in the Gaza Strip and marginalized communities.

**LIST OF AWARDED GRANTS
EIDHR-CBSS Program**

Call for Proposals 2011& 2012 Reference: EuropeAid/131-699/L/ACT/PS

Title	Contractor	Partner/s	Starting date/ End date	Total amount/EC contribution EUR	Summary
Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) in the Gaza Strip	STIFTELSEN FLYKTNINGERADET	Palestinian Centre for Democracy and conflict resolution	28/09/2012-30/09/2013	EUR 284,797.0	Contribute to the promotion of rule of law in the Gaza Strip by providing quality legal services, in the field of housing, land and property (HLP), including advancing women's rights and promoting the role of civil society in monitoring HLP issues. Specific objective: Improved access to justice on housing, land and property (HLP) rights for Palestinians displaced, at risk of displacement or affected by displacement, in the Gaza Strip.
Begin with the Beginning: Community Based Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) in Palestine	INTERNATIONAL CHILD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES STICHTING	Early Childhood Programmes (TRUST)	26/07/2012 – 31/8/2014	EUR 229,942.84	Objective: Development of good quality community based Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services in 9 locations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT). Result 1: Increased quality and number of ECEC services for children aged 0-10 in the target locations. Result 2: Strengthened capacity of local communities to develop and maintain stimulating, child friendly services and practices.
The action of enhancing and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities in the Palestinian territories	P ALESTINIAN CONSULTATIVE STAFF FOR DEVELOPING NGO'S IN JENIN GOVERNORATE ASSOCIATION	TA'WOON	15/07/2012 - 14/8/2014	EUR 206,655.00	Objective is to disseminate information and promote the practice of human rights for persons with disabilities in the Palestinian territories PP: Widespread education on human rights for those with disabilities and the general public; monitoring, documenting and following up the violations against persons with disabilities in Governorates of the northern West Bank
CSOs and Citizens: Influential power for increasing the key state institutions'	THE COALITION FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND INTEGRITY (AMAN)	n/a	19/07/2012 - 31/7/2015	EUR 261,885.97	Objectives are to strengthen local CSOs and citizens to undertake social accountability activities and to increase sources of knowledge and information on state

responsiveness and accountability	ASSOCIATION				
Advancing the rights of working children in the West Bank	STICHTING WAR CHILD	Palestinian Centre for Communication and Development Strategies & Sharek Youth Forum	19/09/2012 - 19/03/2014	EUR 296,159.00	Objective is to promote the fundamental rights of vulnerable children in the oPt in the framework of International Human Rights standards.
Contributing to the respect, protection and promotion of the right to freedom of association in the Gaza Strip	AL-DAMEER ASSOCIATION FOR SUPPORTING PRISONERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS	PNGO	27/08/2012 - 31/8/2015	EUR 281,251.00	Overall objective is to contribute to the respect, protection and promotion of the right to freedom of association in the Gaza Strip. Specific objectives: - To enhance information dissemination and raise public awareness on the right to freedom of association - To enhance lobbying, advocacy and networking on the right to freedom of association - To maintain and protect the freedom of association through effective and monitored law enforcement
Childhood protection from violence, abuses and negligence in West Bank, Palestinian Territories	SECOURS ISLAMIQUE ASSOCIATION	Warm Home	31/10/2012 - 31/10/2015	EUR 279,423.97	Increase the prevention of violence, negligence and abuses on the children in West Bank as well as the protection and the capacity of protection of the civil society and MOSA
Advancing the rights of vulnerable and marginalized persons with disabilities in the West Bank through all inclusive advocacy led by the disability movement	ASSOCIATION FEDERATION HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL	Stars of Hope Society	13/09/2012-30/04/2015	EUR 298,998.00	National and local decision makers in the West Bank implement the national disability law and inclusive community development addressing the rights of all Persons with Disabilities