

ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2012

MEMBER STATE: The Netherlands

FUND: European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: Directorate Integration and Society, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment

YEAR COVERED: 2012

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

The general rules for the selection of projects that will be financed under this annual programme 2012 are in accordance with the modalities set out in the multi-annual programme for 2007-2013 and in the latest version of the management and control systems description.

A public call for proposals will be held that is published in the Dutch Official Gazette and will also be widely made known in other ways. The assessment of the applications and the selection of projects will take place on the basis of the points system of the European Integration Fund published on the website of the EIF. The result of this exercise will be submitted to the Interdepartmental Steering Group for the EIF, of which the chairman reports to the responsible authority (RA). The steering group will advise which projects are eligible for co-financing from the EIF. The RA takes the decision. The 2012 call for proposals is set to open the 1st of February. An information meeting will be organised for all organisations interested in the possibilities for EIF funding. The call will be open for 6 to 8 weeks. In principle only one call is organised for the AP 2012 in which grant applications for all actions can be entered. Only activities starting and ending during the eligibility period of 2012: 1 January 2012 to 30 June 2014 qualify for financial support.

As part of the (co)financing of a project the EU contribution may be increased to a maximum of 75%. Only projects that fall under specific content priorities in line with the strategic guidelines of the EC are eligible for such an increase in the EC contribution. What specific priorities these are is also indicated for each case in Chapter 3.

The RA is authorised to decide for each case whether a project is eligible for such a higher percentage contribution of the European Union from the Fund. Increasing the contribution means that the percentage of co-financing that must be obtained from other public or private funds for a project is proportionately smaller.

When considering whether a project is eligible for such an increase the RA also takes into account, apart from the fact that it falls within one of the specific priorities, the following factors:

- a) innovative content and added value of the project with respect to existing national policy;
- b) applicability of the project, or its outcome, as a model of *best practice* in other countries, particularly within the EU.

If the submitter of an application that falls under one of the specific priorities mentioned would like to be considered for a higher percentage contribution from the EU, this must be indicated explicitly in the application, and further justification must be given of whether the project meets one or more of these factors.

In particular the submitter who thinks he can meet the criteria for maximum 75% co-financing must submit 2 project proposals:

1. a basic proposal, with a maximum of 50% co-financing from the EIF
2. a project proposal that consists of the basic proposal + additional activities, with a maximum of 75% financing from the EIF.

In both proposals the co-financing from a national source must be the same in an absolute sense. Two budgets must be submitted that both meet all the financial requirements.

Example

An organisation submits 2 project proposals that fall within a specific priority.

Project proposal 1	
Activity	Costs
Development method	150,000
Total	150,000
	Financing
EIF	75,000 (50%)
National	75,000 (50%)
Total	150,000

Project proposal 2	
Activity	Costs
Development method	150,000
Congress series	25,000
Dev teaching material	+ 125,000
Total	300,000
	Financing
EIF	225,000 (75%)
National	75,000 (25%)
Total	300,000

The additional activities mentioned must relate to one or both of the above consideration criteria a) and b).

A general determining factor in the RA's assessment for granting co-financing from the Fund of more than 50%, apart from the individual qualities of a grant application, is the ratio between the number and quality of the total annual grant applications. After all, any increase in the EU contribution means a smaller spread of the available resources for that year.

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

KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2012-2013

National implementation

1) *Enhance active participation of both third country nationals and the receiving society in the process of integration.*

The Netherlands has invested heavily in the participation of third country nationals through language and civic integration courses in the period of 2007 to 2012. Apart from ensuring that migrants can learn the language and acquire some knowledge of society, particular focus was on increasing actual labour participation and broader societal participation (e.g. involvement in school career of children, volunteer work). In terms of improving participation of third country nationals, reference could also be made to various measures undertaken in relation to improving the labour market participation of immigrants (e.g. action plan to tackle unemployment among youth, national diversity plan, measures related to tackling labour market discrimination and so forth) as well as measures related to improving educational outcomes. In as far as the receiving society is concerned, particular mention should be made to the language coaches projects in which migrants are coupled to a language guide, which offer support on an individual basis in the learning and practical use of the Dutch language. Furthermore, efforts of central and local governments to ensure that mainstream services cater for our diverse population should be mentioned. NB! Due to the restrictions within the EIF with regard to the target group, only a very limited number of projects could be developed in this domain within the EIF.

2) *Increase the effectiveness of integration measures addressing the specific needs of vulnerable groups (women, youth, and children, the elderly, persons with disabilities etc)*

With regard to specific needs of women, reference could be made to the efforts between 2007 and 2011 within the so-called Delta Plan on civic integration to reach socially isolated migrants, most of whom are women. The action plans on countering honour related crime (2006) and marriage migration (2010) also included several measures particularly relevant for strengthening the position of migrant women. With regard to migrants youth the government has focussed on improving the prospects of young migrants with the help of generic instruments such as accessible parenting support through Youth and Family Centres, the Investment in Young People Act, efforts to tackle youth unemployment and the extra facilities for overburdened young people in pre-vocational and vocational education (VMBO and MBO). Furthermore, a Diversity in Youth Policy action programme was set up to ensure that social services are more effective in reaching migrants and their children. With regard to migrant youth mention should also be made to general educational policy measures geared towards addressing disadvantages (e.g. Support for language skills development through early childhood education, extra language coaching in Dutch through bridging classes, and intensified efforts to tackle school dropout) and efforts to increase the involvement of migrants parents in the educational career of their children.

3) *Foster the multilevel cooperation between the different levels of governance involved in the development of integration strategies and measures encouraging local action and a bottom-up approach to integration*

Municipalities bear primary responsibility for the execution of integration policy and need sufficient capacity from central government to carry this out. The Netherlands has set up various facilities for this (e.g. Service Centre for Local Integration policy of the Forum institute and the Local Integration map) The National government is responsible for streamlining integration policy and coordination and information exchange between relevant government services at the different administrative level so as to also ensure consistency within and between the different administrative levels. In this regard a common vision and a common policy agenda was established between the National government and municipalities in the field of integration in 2008. This agenda has been implemented and further developed between 2008 and 2012. In the framework of the Common Integration Agenda many (thematic) meetings were organised to improve cooperation among municipalities and between municipalities and the national government. Reference should also be made to the implementation of the "Strong Neighbourhoods Action Plan" to improve the structural and social living environments in forty disadvantaged neighbourhoods. This represents a very successful example of multi-level cooperation.

4) *Reflect on pre-departure measures as a support to integration*

On 15 March 2006, the Civic Integration (Preparation Abroad) Act entered into force as part of the new Dutch integration system. To break the recurring pattern of immigrants becoming socially disadvantaged, the Government decided that immigrants should start integrating before coming to the country. Since then, prospective immigrants have been required, before coming to the Netherlands, to gain a basic knowledge of the Dutch language and Dutch society in their country of origin or long-term residence which is tested in an examination. An evaluation of the act was carried out and published in May 2009. Following the evaluation, the level of the language test and test itself have been revised as of the 1st of April of 2011. The exam now exists of one test of "Knowledge of Dutch society" and a language tests (a listening and speaking test and a reading and comprehension skills test). Both language tests need to be done at level A1 of the CEFR. For pre-departure preparation a self study package is available which has been developed by the Dutch Government which consists of a film, a picture book with questions and answers, an audio-CD for the preparation of the culture test and practice tests for the oral language exam, and a language learning method with twenty lessons which teach the Latin script and all the sounds of the Dutch language. Because the candidate is generally doing the preparation abroad the methods are self education based. It is possible to learn with or without a computer (stand alone or online e-learning). The pack is available in 18 languages. Apart from the civic integration act abroad, the Netherlands also finance an IOM pilot project to strengthen the pre-departure preparation of family migrants from Somalia within the EIF AP 2010.

The following priorities refer to the priorities included in the strategic guidelines and the multi-annual programme for 2007-2013. The allocation of resources between these priorities (see Chapter 6) is in accordance with the current requirements at national level.

Contrary to what was envisaged in the multiannual programme, there will be also actions implementing priority 2 in 2012. Furthermore, more resources will be devoted to priority 3 and priority 4 than previously envisaged within the multiannual programme in view of current national political priorities, e.g. emphasis on mainstreaming and equal access to services and institutions and European cooperation.

3.1. Action implementing priority 1

Priority 1: Implementation of actions designed to put the "Common Basic Principles for immigrant integration policy in the European Union" into practice

Actions 1 and 2 aim at the implementation of common basic principle 4 (basic knowledge of the language, the history and the institutions of the host society is essential to integration), common basic principle 2 (integration implies respect for the basic values of the EU), common basic principle 3 (employment is a key part of the integration process), and common basic principle 4 (efforts in education are critical to preparing immigrants), common basic principle 6 (access for immigrants to institutions is a critical foundation for better integration), common basic principle 8 (practice of diverse cultures and religions is guaranteed unless it conflicts with other inviolable European rights or with national law).

Actions 1 and 2 relates to the following 2012-2013 key strategic objectives: enhancing active participation of both TCN and the receiving society, increasing the effectiveness of integration measures addressing specific needs of vulnerable groups and reflection on pre-departure measures as a support to integration.

Action 1: Participation as an instrument for integration

1. Purpose and scope of the action

Projects under this objective are consistent with the choice to direct the appropriation of resources under the Fund primarily to the integration of newcomers.

Actions within this objective focus primarily on the target groups "newcomers" and "oldcomers" as outlined in the current Civic Integration Act (wet Inburgering). The first group includes foreigners-meaning persons without Dutch nationality- between the age categories 18 and 65 who entered The Netherlands after 1 January 2007 on the basis of non-temporary stay or people who were obliged to follow civic introduction courses.

The second group includes immigrants in the same age category who lived in The Netherlands before 1 January 2007 but not during the 8 years of their school age and who do not hold any diploma of which it can be made clear that the person has knowledge of Dutch language and the Dutch society at a certain level. Both of these groups fall within the scope of "newcomers" set out by the EIF.

Persons having the status of a refugee (art 29(1)(a) Vw), having a residence permit on other grounds of international protection (art. 29(1)(b) Vw), or having sought asylum on which no definitive decision has been taken yet, fall outside the target group of these actions.

The purpose of projects under this action is to contribute to the social and economic participation of (prospective) citizens in Dutch society, including on the labour market, at schools, and at communities or local level as volunteers. This is in line with the Integration policy memorandum of the current government.

Furthermore, actions need to be in keeping with the general principles of the Netherlands integration policy memorandum. Firstly, that it is the individual's responsibility to invest in the knowledge and skills required to participate in society and be independent just as it is demanded from Dutch citizen that they contribute to society and to be self-reliant. Secondly, that active participation also requires that people continue to develop themselves, perhaps with the assistance of family, friends, neighbours, societies or churches. Thirdly, that for dealing with specific problems related to increasing labour participation, improving knowledge of the Dutch language and reducing school dropout, anti-social behaviour and crime, efforts should be geared towards improving regular institutions and regular measures, rather than developing specific integration measures. The objective should be that mainstream policy and measures equally cater for immigrants.

In particular in accordance with this objective projects are considered for financing that relate to action 1. The projects specified below can be seen as an example of projects within the scope of priority and action 1 as they refer to the 'Common Basic Principles' on integration on EU-level and are projects relating to participation of migrants.

- 1. Projects or research which looks into how to promote migrants' self-reliance and independence in societal participation and the role of wider social support in this (e.g. assistance of family, friends, neighbours, societies or churches).**

This concerns an action which on the basis of specific priority 3 of the strategic guidelines can qualify for co financing of maximum 75% because of the **innovative character of such programmes**. An assessment of the innovative character in a project will be part of the overall evaluation of a project.

2. Projects aimed at strengthening active citizenship and participation (e.g. volunteering, communities' based work etc.) which contributes to social cohesion and integration

The Netherlands policy memorandum on integration, social cohesion and citizenship stresses the importance of active participation of all residents and citizens in all relevant areas of society – including one's local neighbourhood and living environment. Individual efforts are key to securing social cohesion, mutual involvement and social stability. Migrants are often underrepresented in volunteer work, notably in established organisations. In this light projects are, inter alia, welcomed in which migrants and established volunteer organisations closely cooperate with the aim of increasing volunteer work among migrants.

This concerns an action which on the basis of specific priority 3 of the strategic guidelines can qualify for co financing of maximum 75% because of the **innovative character of such programmes**. An assessment of the innovative character in a project will be part of the overall evaluation of a project.

3. Projects in which informal language education and support is given (language coaches) and which are specifically targeted to active stimulation of participation. These projects link integratees to a language guide, which offers support on an individual basis in the learning and practical use of the Dutch language, and with this purpose, among other things, undertakes activities with the integratee, for example on a sporting or cultural level.

In 2012 the following projects under this heading are particularly welcomed;

- projects which are geared towards rendering language coached programmes more cost efficient and/or financially self-sufficient (e.g. strengthening cooperation between volunteering organisations, with language course providers, and/or firms/employers);
- projects specifically targeting groups that are difficult to reach/socially isolated migrants.

With regard to the development and/or enforcement of projects in which informal language and education is given, the Responsible Authority can consider to raise the contribution of the European community up to 75% in co financing such projects in case the project proposal contains sufficient information on how this project is addressing effective ways of raising awareness and actively involving the host society in the integration process as well as information with regard to reaching specific target groups. This is in line with provisions relating to specific priority 2 as set out in the strategic guidelines.

4. Activating volunteers within migrant communities to foster participation and to discuss sensitive issues such as forced marriages, abandonment, homosexuality etc. Several methodologies have been developed, including in the framework of the national programme on honour-related violence, to train volunteers with migrant communities who in turn educate and train the people within their communities to change the mentality that causes problems such as forced marriages, honour-related violence and abandonment. Other issues that equally relate to the individual's right of self-determination such as female genital mutilation and homophobia can also be incorporated in such projects. With the use of existing methodologies migrants with initiative, guts and ambition with a large network within their own communities can be trained to become an inspiring trainer/educator that can activate other people within these communities. It is envisaged that trained volunteers initiate visible actions at local level aimed at fostering the resilience of vulnerable groups and initiating discussions with regard to these subjects. The continued coaching and support of these volunteers should be part of these projects.

This concerns an action which on the basis of specific priority 3 of the strategic guidelines can qualify for co financing of maximum 75% because of the **innovative character of such programmes**. An assessment of the innovative character and the effective involvement of the host society in a project will be part of the overall evaluation of a project.

2. *Expected grant recipients*

Non-profit and profit organizations may apply for a project grant. Examples are government organizations, educational establishments, social partners, and non-governmental organizations. Especially cooperation of different organizations, e.g. a local government and a migrant organization or a large coordinating/umbrella organization with one or more smaller executing organizations, will qualify for a project grant

3. *Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

4. *Expected quantified results and indicators to be used*

targets;

- improvement of the chances and possibilities of migrants to participate in society (e.g. schools, volunteering) and in the labour market (e.g. factual knowledge of the Dutch language and society)

quantitative results and indicators:

- 5 integration programmes aimed at improving economic participation
- 150 participants in integration programmes aimed at economic participation
- 10 integration programmes specifically aimed at parents of school going children
- 200 parents with school going children in a language guide programme
- 5 language guide programmes
- 50 integratees linked with a language guide
- 40 illiterate/elderly participants

The above quantitative results and indicators may also change as a result of the *call for proposals*. The numbers mentioned may deviate both upwards and downwards.

5. *Visibility of EU funding*

An information meeting will be organised with regard to the call for the submission of grant applications. A website has been created. The address of the website is www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/europese-subsidies-voor-migratie/europese-migratiefondsen. All information about EIF can be found under the heading "europees integratiefonds". In all the communication statements from or about the programme a reference is made in text and with the EU logo to the co-financing from the EIF, both by the RA and by final beneficiaries. The statement of the EIF will also be given. The final beneficiaries will inform the project participants that the project is co-financed by the EIF.

The obligations of final beneficiaries relating communication about the fund will be included in the grant decision,. The programme secretariat will also communicate actively about this obligation with final beneficiaries in response to information in progress reports and final reports. When the programme secretariat visits (a selection of) final beneficiaries compliance will be checked.

6. *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate*

This action corresponds with and is complementary to relevant policy, legislation and regulations relating to integration at national and Union level. The Responsible Authority and the strategic partners constantly guarantee this correspondence and complementarity, and together have the required knowledge to fulfil this function.

The target group for this Fund is accurately described and separated from that of the European Refugee Fund (ERF) (paragraph 4). The responsible bodies of the ERF and European Social Fund

(ESF) and other departments with sight of other Union funds significant at national, municipal and regional level, have a seat in the Steering group that meets annually to ensure separation and complementarity between the EIF and other Union funds.

The Responsible Authority also has prime responsibility for the development and implementation of integration policy in the Netherlands and ensures this action is checked against it. Structural discussion and consultation with strategic partners at Union level and in the field provides a further guarantee of correspondence with policy and regulations at local level.

7. *Financial information*

For action 1 the total budget of € 2.726.204,47 is reserved for projects that will be selected through the EIF 2012 open call for proposals.

These projects will have to start and end during the duration of the eligibility period of EIF 2012: 1 January 2012 – 30 June 2014.

EU co-financing can be increased to 75% if the project qualifies for the requirements of specific priority 3. This should relate to the innovative character of projects executed under Action 1.

Action 2: Active participation to foster skills and competencies amongst youth and adults

1. *Purpose and scope of the action*

The purpose and scope of this action are the same as the ones of Action. However, projects funded under this action will not have to respond to any specific priority.

The projects specified below can be seen as an example of projects within the scope of priority and action 1 as they refer to the 'Common Basic Principles' on integration on EU-level and are projects relating to participation of migrants

1. Projects that are complementary to regular language and civic integration courses that aim to improve labour market participation of migrants. This could include such elements as voluntary work, (vocational) training, educational support and language learning courses developed in full cooperation with firms that are geared towards the use of the Dutch language on the work floor.

NB! With regard to the stimulation of the entrance to the labour market and labour participation of third country nationals it is important to keep in mind that projects can only focus on the stimulation of the entrance to the labour market. Projects can not focus on labour participation (the actual placing of the target group in a job). This to prevent overlap with activities under the European Social Fund.

2. Projects targeted at improving parents participation in relation to education, parenting, and youth care, including care related to preventing juvenile delinquency. Parents are responsible for the healthy and balanced upbringing of their children. They play a key role in supporting their children's education. It is important that regular institutions and regular measures provide early support where parents are insufficiently capable of offering such parental support, such as in pre-school education (Voor en Vroegschoolse educatie), and general youth care institutions (Centra voor Jeugd en Gezin) to prevent possible problems. This could for example include projects in which parents with a deprivation in language get language lessons at the school of their children, in which the content of the lessons is closely related to the language development of the children, or projects geared towards improving broader parental involvement at elementary or high schools.

2. *Expected grant recipients*

Non-profit and profit organizations may apply for a project grant. Examples are government organizations, educational establishments, social partners, and non-governmental organizations. Especially cooperation of different organizations, e.g. a local government and a migrant organization or a large coordinating/umbrella organization with one or more smaller executing organizations, will qualify for a project grant

3. *Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body*

N/A

4. *Expected quantified results and indicators to be used*

targets;

- improvement of the chances and possibilities of migrants to participate in society (e.g. schools, volunteering) and in the labour market (e.g. factual knowledge of the Dutch language and society)

quantitative results and indicators:

- 2 integration programmes aimed at improving economic participation
- 150 participants in integration programmes aimed at economic participation
- 2 integration programmes specifically aimed at parents of school going children

The above quantitative results and indicators may also change as a result of the *call for proposals*. The numbers mentioned may deviate both upwards and downwards.

5. *Visibility of EU funding*

See action 1

6. *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate*

See action 1

7. *Financial information*

For action 2 € 0,00 is reserved for projects that will be selected through the EIF open call for proposals.

These projects will have to start and end during the duration of the eligibility period of EIF 2012: 1 January 2012 – 30 June 2014. EU co-financing is limited to 50%.

Action 3 - Research on the living conditions of family migrants and their sponsors, and the exploration of relevant existing issues

1. Purpose and scope of the action

Member States are responsible for actively assuring that all residents, including immigrants, understand, respect, benefit from, and are protected on an equal basis by the full scope of values and rights established by the EU and Member State law (see common basic principle 2). Issues that are not compatible with such basic values, such as forced marriages, honour related violence and domestic abuse, hinders the successful integration of immigrants into their new host society. The Netherlands civic integration examination abroad test has been, inter alia, established to adequately prepare family migrants for their stay in their Netherlands and to prevent their isolation and becoming victim of such crimes. Family migrants still often find themselves in a vulnerable position and often face difficulties in finding employment. In order to explore possible further (pre-departure) measures to promote the integration of family migrants in view of common basic principles 3 and 4 (employment and enabling basic knowledge), more insight is needed in family migration (motives, background and current integration outcomes) and the extent of forced marriages, honour-related crime within this group.

As this particular measure relates to the current civic integration abroad act in place and possible particular policy developments, the responsible authority will be the recipient.

2. Expected grant recipients

Responsible Authority. Namely the Ministry of the Interior, directorate Integration and Society.

3. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

The Minister for Immigration, Integration and Asylum is responsible for developing policy measures to adequately prepare immigrants and addressing issues that hinder integration, such as forced marriages, honour related violence and domestic abuse. Research specifically geared towards policy development in this field needs to be taken up by the responsible authority as it has a de jure and de facto monopoly. This research will be carried out by the Netherlands Institute for Social Research, an official advisor of State and part of the Netherlands public administration, which has produced national integration reports for the Minister of Integration for many years in close cooperation with the Netherlands National Statistical Bureau, which is the only organisation in possession of the relevant core data as well as the only one granted the right to link certain data files necessary to carry out this research.

4. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Qualitative knowledge on the integration of family migrants
- Quantitative knowledge where possible on the typification of family migrants

5. Visibility of EU funding

In all communication statements from or about the research reference is made to in text and with the EU logo to co-financing from the EIF.

6. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

See Action 1

7. Financial information

Total budget : € 0,00 EU co financing : € 0,00 (50 %)
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Action 4 - Evaluative Research into expectations, wishes and needs of potential (family)migrants

1. Purpose and scope of the action

The Netherlands civic integration abroad act has been established to prepare individual migrants for their stay in the Netherlands. In the development of the act migrants have been intensively consulted. In view of evaluation and possible further development of the act and improving its effectiveness, it is of key importance to again closely involve the target group and understand their particular expectations, wishes and needs. This research is aimed to get more insight in the latter and use this evaluative knowledge to improve the legislation on civic integration and pre-departure. As this particular measure relates to the current civic integration abroad act in place and possible legislative procedures and policy developments, the responsible authority will be the recipient.

2. Expected grant recipients

Responsible Authority, namely ministry of the Interior, directorate Integration and Society.

3. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

The Minister for Immigration, Integration and Asylum has a de jure and de facto monopoly with regard to the development of policy and legislative measures to adequately prepare immigrants before departure. The civic integration abroad act will be evaluated in 2013. This accompanying research is conducted in preparation of the evaluation. and is part of the regular programme on improving policy and legislation from the national government. All the above are necessary and meaningful input for the responsible authority in evaluating the Civic Integration Abroad Act. This particular research will be commissioned in line with EIF standards.

4. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

This qualitative research targets at the improvement of knowledge with regard to the integration of family migrants.

5. Visibility of EU funding

See Action 3

6. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

See action 1

7. Financial information

Total budget : € 100.000 EU co financing : € 50.000 (50 %)

3.2. Actions implementing priority 2

Priority 2, action 5: Development of indicators and evaluation methodologies to assess progress, adjust policies and measures and to facilitate co-ordination of comparative learning

Action 5: Development of indicators and evaluation methodologies to assess progress, adjust policies and measures and to facilitate co-ordination of comparative learning

Action 5 relates to the following 2012-2013 key strategic objectives: enhancing active participation of both TCN and the receiving society, and fostering the multilevel cooperation between the different levels of governance involved.

1. Purpose and scope of the actions

This objective of the Netherlands integration policy is to ensure equality of chances, outcomes and access to services to the indigenous and immigrant population. In the area of the development of indicators and evaluation methods within the European Integration Fund it is the objective of the Netherlands to accommodate projects at both national and local level.

Projects under this priority and action 2 aim directly at policy officers at both national and local level as well as advisory bodies with a specific function to provide expertise to (local) authorities in the integration field or non-governmental organisations with sufficient expertise to carry out policy-relevant research of methodologies and indicators; increasing the knowledge concerning the effectiveness of measures is meant for improvement of the policy process. Indirectly the target group is of course society as a whole, including newcomers since they also benefit from qualitatively better founded integration policy.

In particular in accordance with this priority projects are considered for financing that focus on:

- measures that monitor to what extent mainstream services at local level equally cater for and sufficiently reach immigrants/are diversity proof.
- the development of indicators for the measurement of integration outcomes at local level as well as the development of evaluation tools of local integration policies.
- enhancement of the analysis of the general monitoring system that contribute to more specified outcomes and strengthen its link to policy measures;

2. Expected grant recipients

This will depend on the outcome of the call for proposals to be issued for the submission of grant applications. Non-profit and profit organizations may apply for a project grant. Examples are government organizations, educational establishments, social partners, non-government organizations.

Especially cooperation of different organizations, e.g. a local government and a migrant organization or a large coordinating/umbrella organization with one or more smaller executing organizations, will qualify for a project grant.

3. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

N.a.

4. Description of target(s) concerned and the indicator(s) used

targets:

- 2 (further) developments of evaluation methodology/indicators at local level
- 1 developed local integration monitoring tool
- 1 developed evaluation method to adequately assess success of local policies.

indicators:

- 3 of methodologies and or surveys
- 3 evaluations of policy intervention

The above quantitative results and indicators may also change as a result of the *call for proposals*. The numbers mentioned may deviate both upwards and downwards.

5. *Visibility of EU funding*

See Action 1.

6. *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate* See Action 1.

7. *Financial information*

For action 5 € 256.615,31 is reserved for projects that will be selected through the EIF open call for proposals.

These projects will have to start and end during the duration of the eligibility period of EIF 2012: 1 January 2012 – 30 June 2014. EU co-financing is limited to 50%.

3.3. Actions implementing priority 3

Priority 3: Policy capacity building, coordination and intercultural competence building in the Member States across the different levels and departments of government

Action 6 relates to the following 2012-2013 key strategic objective: and fostering the multilevel cooperation between the different levels of governance involved.

Action 6: Policy capacity building, coordination and intercultural competence building in the Member States across the different levels and departments of government

1. Purpose and scope of the actions

This priority is related to the main objective of national integration policy, the reduction of the economic, social and cultural gap between the non-indigenous population and the indigenous population.

The objectives of actions within this particular priority will be 1) the support to capacity-building of municipalities with regard to the integration of third country nationals and 2) the strengthening of coordination and information exchange between the national administration and municipalities as well as between different municipalities with regard to the integration of third country nationals, and mainstreaming of services.

1) Capacity-building

Integration happens on the street, in the community, at school, on the sports field, in entertainment centres. Municipalities are primary responsible for the execution of integration policy and need sufficient capacity to carry this out. The Dutch government has set up various facilities for this (e.g. Service Centre for Local Integration policy of the Forum institute and the Local Integration map) and considers that the Fund for the integration of third country nationals can also be a useful instrument in this regard supplementing yet existing efforts. Measures in this regard could include the development of appropriate policy and legal frameworks, institutional development, including community participation and organizational development, e.g. streamlining of integration issues within different departments of a municipality.

2) Coordination and streamlining

The national government is responsible for streamlining integration policy and coordination and information exchange between relevant government services at the different administrative level so as to also ensure consistency within and between the different administrative levels. In this regard measures relating to improved coordination between national government and local authorities, as well as among municipalities and or provincial authorities could be envisaged.

In particular in accordance with this priority actions will be considered for financing that focus on:

- transitions from specific to general policy (mainstreaming), making policy diversity proof, and ensuring intercultural competences and skills.
- the establishment of local integration action plans and/or relevant institutional structures for the cooperation between the different departments of municipalities
- the improvement of cooperation and coordination among municipalities

2. Expected grant recipients

This will depend on the outcome of the call for proposals to be issued. Non-profit and profit organisations may apply for a project grant. Examples are government organisations, expertise centres, educational establishments, social partners, and non-government organisations.

3. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

N.a.

4. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

targets:

- increase of number of municipalities with strengthened mainstreaming/ more diversity proof policies.
- increase of cooperation among municipalities, provincial authorities and national government with regard to integration

indicators:

- increase in the number of municipalities with strengthened mainstreaming policy (2) 2 coordination meetings/platforms established
- 4 programmes/courses of instruction relating to people who are not easily reached by regular policy
- 4 programmes /courses of instruction relating to participation of parents in the education of their children

The above quantitative results and indicators may also change as a result of the *call for proposals*. The numbers mentioned may deviate both upwards and downwards.

5. *Visibility of EU funding*

See Action 1.

6. *Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate*

See Action 1.

7. *Financial information*

For action 6 € 0,00 is reserved for projects that will be selected through the EIF open call for proposals. These projects will have to start and end during the duration of the eligibility period of EIF 2012: 1 January 2012 – 30 June 2014. EU co-financing is limited to 50%.

3.4. Actions implementing priority 4

Priority 4: Exchange of experience, good methods and information relating to integration between the member States

In derogation of the multi-annual programme 2007 – 2013 no actions are foreseen in 2012 in relation to priority 4.

4. TARGET GROUP FOR PROJECTS

Subjects of third countries, not in possession of Dutch nationality or the nationality of another EU Member State, and who are in possession of or are eligible for a valid residence permit in the Netherlands, including subjects of third countries present in the territory of a third country and who meet the conditions under the Integration Abroad Act in accordance with Article 1(2) of the Council decision.

Persons who have the status of refugee (Article 29(1)(a) Vw (Aliens Act)), are in possession of a residence permit for other reasons of international protection (Article 29(1)(b) Vw), or have submitted an application for asylum on which a final decision has not been taken, fall outside the target group in accordance with Article 1(3) of the Council Decision.

5 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

5.1 Purpose of technical assistance

In the Netherlands, the four migration funds are managed by the European Funds Programme Secretariat (PEF), which operates as a delegated authority. *The PEF currently has a staff establishment of 12 persons.* The technical assistance for the four migration funds is merged. The expenditure for managing the funds – including the salaries of the staff members of the PEF, external evaluations, costs of the audit authority, costs of the certification authority, costs for organising an information meeting as prescribed in Article 33(2)(a) of the EIF Implementation Decision, costs for publicity and dissemination, travelling costs in connection with monitor visits to projects, participation in the SOLID Committee and costs for evaluation of the funds, costs of trainings and courses of the staff of PEF and the International Working Groups on funds management of the Netherlands with other Member States – are incurred by the PEF. Insofar as those costs solely relate to one fund, they must be allocated to the technical assistance available to that fund. Any costs that do not solely relate to one fund are allocated to the technical assistance of all funds according to a formula. This formula is based on the available funds for the relevant year and the relevant funds.

A multi-annual budget has been drawn up for the deployment of technical assistance, so that account can also be taken of the reduction in the percentage of technical assistance as of 2011. The multi-annual budget also allows for an expansion of the PEF due to the expected increase in work load and a reservation has been made for unforeseen expenditure and the possibility of a reduction in the available funds as a result of the distribution of funds across the Member States.

5.2 Expected results in figures

The most important cost item for technical assistance in 2012 is formed by the salaries of the staff members of PEF. Other quantifiable cost items are the travel and accommodation expenses in connection with project visits (approximately 60), information meetings (approximately 2), the SOLID Committee (approximately 3), the International Working Groups (approximately 8): the numbers mentioned apply to the four migration funds together. The PEF is usually represented by two staff members. Finally, account must be taken of the costs to be incurred for opening the calls (e.g. advertising costs).

5.3 Visibility of Community financing

The websites of the four migration funds include a statement about EU financing and the European flag is also shown. The European flag is also printed on all the forms that are used for the funds. Additionally, it is also printed on promotional material and during information meetings these materials are distributed to the final beneficiaries.

Furthermore, a number of organisations that have received EIF contribution will be approached to present their results and the challenges they faced. Moreover, the RA is planning to organise an activity or a set of activities that will target the public at large using media to publish the EIF programmes and their results. The exact form of this activity has not yet crystallized at the moment of writing this proposal.

DRAFT FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan (approved)								
Table 1 - Overview table								
The Netherlands								
Annual programme 2012								
European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals								
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Union Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EU (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
Action 1:	1	3	1.523.148,16	1.100.000	423.148,16	3.046.296,32	50,00%	44%
Action 2:	1		450.000	450.000		900.000	50,00%	13,2%
Action 3:	1		150.000	150.000		300.000	50,00%	4,4%
Action 4:	1		100.000	100.000		200.000	50,00%	2,9%
Action 5:	2		400.000	400.000		800.000	50,00%	11,86%
Action 6:	3		675.000	675.000		1.350.000	50,00%	19,92%
Technical assistance			168.672,84			168.672,84	100,00%	2,49%
TOTAL			3.466.821	2.875.000	423.148,16	6.774.969,16	50%	100,00%

The amounts of public and private co-financing mentioned are based on estimates. The relation between these amounts depends on grant applications and may therefore deviate both upwards and downwards.

The percentage Community contribution mentioned is also based on an estimate for it depends on the grant applications, and in cases of the decision of the Responsible Authority to increase this percentage (see paragraph 1).

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan (Revised)

Table 1 - Overview table

The Netherlands								
Annual programme 2010								
European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals								
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	specific priority	Union Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EU (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
Action 1:	1	3	2.991.532,85	1.575.266,89	1.416.265,96	5.983.065,70	50,00%	88,44%
Action 2:	1		0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-	-
Action 3:	1		0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-	-
Action 4:	1		50.000,00	50.000,00	0,00	100.000,00	50,00%	1,48%
Action 5:	2		256.615,31	46.176,00	210.439,31	513.230,62	50,00%	7,59%
Action 6:	3		0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-	0,00%
Technical assistance			168.672,84	0,00	0,00	168.672,84	100,00%	2,49%
TOTAL			3.466.821,00	1.671.442,89	1.626.705,27	6.764.969,16	51,25%	100,00%

ANNUAL PROGRAMME (revision)

MEMBER STATE: The Netherlands

FUND: European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: Directorate Integration and Society, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment

YEAR COVERED: 2012

SIGNATURE:

A.M.C. van Rijn

Director Integration and Society /

Responsible Authority for the European Integration Fund