



ALF Secretariat feedback after first info sessions done in some countries for the Call for Proposals Phase III (02.04.2012)

Fields of Action

If we look over the last 3 years, it is obvious that both the big diversity of member organisations and the focus of their work reflect the different perspectives the ALF fields of actions can be addressed from. That proves the richness of approaches in intercultural dialogue. The 4Ds embrace the 4 main areas within which the Network members are working in. **Projects proposals can be addressing more than one D and/ or more than one field at the same time.**

In our assessment of the granted projects over the last 3 years we have identified the below subcategories. In many of the assessed projects, issues related to dialogue, diversity, democracy and development were approached from different starting points and at different degrees, which shows that contexts and challenges can inspire members in adopting innovative ways to approach reality.

1. Culture and Creativity

- cultural production
- artistic expression with community and social development
- arts as a mean to address regional/local realities, specific issues (special needs, gender...)

2. Education and Intercultural Learning

- Lifelong learning
- Intercultural dialogue as a mean to encourage better living together
- Interreligious dialogue
- Inter-relation Formal-Non Formal Education

3. Cities and Spaces of Citizenship

- migration/ minorities
- Spaces of encounters

4. Media & Public Opinion

- shaping perceptions
- social media/new technologies
- as a mean to empower specific groups (migrants, women...)

Selection of Projects

Following granted projects in Phase II, we can say that some of the most successful projects with interesting results for the intercultural dialogue in the Euromed area have been **those working on different fields with very different publics at the same time, trying to bring together unusual publics/ groups with open approaches, trying new things** (for example: contemporary arts working with social issues and community development in really remote areas, researchers proposing a cultural policy for cities taking into account migration issues, CEJI as a Jewish organization empowering Turkish women in Belgium and Turkey, SCI as a

volunteer organization exploring the migration routes in Sinai and to Europe with professionals in documentaries making, involving specialists on migrations...).

At the end, the evaluation committee has the difficult task of

- Selecting the projects which sound **the more solid in terms of contents and partnerships, the more coherent between the description, work plan and budget, the more innovative, offering an integrated perspective to issues,** and not repetition of things which have been done already and
- **Ensuring a national balance in the selection of leaders (previous calls could have selected easily 10 Italian or French projects from the 40 presented for each of those countries...) and in the fields of action addressed.**

Like previous CFP the Secretariat is expecting several applications

- ✓ Short term in 2009 received 151 applications and selected 35.
- ✓ Long term in 2009 received 242 applications and selected 21.
- ✓ Short term in 2010 received 231 applications and selected 27.

Next Call for Proposals is foreseen to be launched before the end of 2012 (members will have to be accepted members 2 months before the launch). It is intended that this round of projects will be able to start after 1st April 2013. (dates to be confirmed later).

We would like to underline that the eligible criteria are important and all compulsory (please refer to section D in the Guidelines). It should be reminded that:

- The **1+1 formula is the minimum partnership required** involving **at least an organisation from Europe and at least one organisation from the Southern shore of the Mediterranean,**
- The leader has to be an **accepted member of one of the National Network by the 20th of January 2012.**

This means that members who had not reconfirmed their membership before the 20th of January 2012, but after that date will not be eligible as leader for this call (knowing that reconfirmation was due by the 31st August 2011).

New member candidates who applied before the 20th January 2012 will be considered members of the National Network they applied to, **only** if they have been accepted by the Head of Network of the given country before the 20th January 2012, or if their application has not been validated provided that it was submitted 6 weeks before the 20th January 2012 (silent-assent procedure applies in this case). If an organisation submitted a request of membership to a network whose Head of Network position was pending due to the organisation of elections during the 6 weeks previous to the 20th January, the ALF Secretariat can accept their participation in this call.

Looking for Partners

- The ALF Facebook page can be an option to post a short proposal/ specific request.
- If potential applicants are interested in working with specific countries, maybe they can look if those countries have also a Facebook page and post there. Or they can contact the HoN of the given country. The HoN contact details appear on each country page <http://www.euromedalex.org/networks>.
- On every country pages on ALF website <http://www.euromedalex.org/networks> there is the list of members, which is updated to end of February 2012.

- The ALF website has a page “Project ideas” <http://www.euromedalex.org/proposals>. It has been spammed lately, but we are trying to solve the issue and some interesting proposals have been posted in the last weeks.
- The ALF website has also a search engine “Search for partners” <http://www.euromedalex.org/partner-search> which is not the most advanced but can still help, and deserve to be explored.

Resource Material

Some documents have been prepared in order to help the HoN and potential candidates in better understanding the Call for proposal

- Power point presentation based on the guidelines
http://grants.annalindh.org/sites/default/files/cfp_presentation_en.pdf
- Preparing and writing a project proposal for a grant - some hints (pdf)
http://grants.annalindh.org/sites/default/files/cfp_preparing_tips_en.pdf
- Interesting links to explore when developing ideas for projects and seeking funds (pdf)
http://grants.annalindh.org/sites/default/files/cfp_preparing_donors_en.pdf
- a commented application form with examples and tips (pdf)
http://grants.annalindh.org/sites/default/files/cfp_commented_form_en.pdf
- a second round of FAQ will be online those days at <http://grants.annalindh.org/faq>

Main remarks and tips we would like to underline based on the last 3 years' experience :

- ✓ Proposals have to be **well elaborated**, documents (description, work plan and budget) must be coherent with each other, so that the selection committee **clearly understand what the proposal is, what exactly the project is going to address and produce** (in terms of reflection, debate, recommendations, new approaches, new material...)
- ✓ Partnerships have to be **effective, where partners know each other and work together**. The projects with which we faced most of the problems have been those where we found out that the partners did not knew each other well, did not trust each other much, did not establish a clear segregation of tasks, responsibilities and involvement roles.
- ✓ Projects have to be **realistic in terms of capacities to handle with what is proposed, as well as in terms of budget**.
- ✓ With the budget the candidates have to be aware that if they are selected they **will have to confirm they have the complementary funds** before signature of the contract. Here as well is where we have faced major problems and several projects were cancelled.
- ✓ **Budget have to be realistic**; careful attention must be paid in order not to forget items which are mentioned in the project description, and not to underestimate some of the costs. The ALF Secretariat may consider some of the items overestimated, ask the beneficiary to reconsider the calculations and reduce the budget before the contract approval. The ALF Secretariat may reduce the amount of the grant in the final payment if some costs are found non eligible and or some items are exaggerated.