

Standard Summary Project Fiche

Project number: TR2011/0465.19

1. Basic Information

- 1.1 Country : Republic of Turkey**
- 1.2 Title : Participation in Union Programmes and Agencies – support to Turkey's participation in the 7th Framework programme**
- 1.3 Sector Private Sector Development**

2. Description

On the basis of Association Council decisions or Framework Agreements, candidate countries may participate in certain European Union programmes and agencies.

Pre-accession financial assistance can be used to help a candidate country to meet part of the costs of participation in those programmes and agencies, on the basis of an increasing contribution from the Candidate Country. A maximum of 10% of Pre-accession financial assistance available for national programme funding may be used to co-finance participation in Union programmes and agencies. Participation in the R&D Programme does not count towards the 10% limit. Turkey believes that, Science and Research is among the most promising areas of Turkish-EU Cooperation, with its tangible results. It also constitutes a concrete and successful example of Turkish efforts for adapting herself to the EU within the accession process, which has been materialized with the association of Turkey to the Framework Programmes.

Turkey has been participating in the Framework Programmes as an associated country since 2003, starting with the 6th Framework Programme (FP6). Although FP6 performance of Turkey was far from satisfactory, about 500 Turkish participants had been benefited from FP6. Thus FP6 had given opportunity for the Turkish Research Area (TARAL) to intertwine with the European Research Area (ERA).

With the very positive contributions of lessons learnt through participation to Framework Programmes, Turkey has taken several steps to create a favourable milieu for research activities both respect to GERD (Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D) and FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) researchers and also improved legislations to easy bureaucracy, launched diversified initiatives and developed new international channels in European wide and globally.

Since 2007, Turkey has also actively been participating in the 7th Framework Programme. Experience gained from the previous FPs contributed significantly to the Turkish performance in FP7. Despite this fact, there is considerable room for improvement in Turkish performance mainly due to several issues like closed scientific networks in some research areas in Europe and absence of scientific visas for Turkish researchers. In spite of this, FPs has been a fruitful cooperation opportunity for Turkey and Europe.

The Framework Agreement between Turkey and the European Community on the General Principles for the Participation of Turkey in Community Programmes was signed on 26 February 2002, and entered into force on 5 September 2002. Thus, Turkey's participation in a number of programmes is being materialized through separate Memoranda of Understanding.

Normally, the EU's grant assistance will be made available each year for Turkey so as to co-finance the financial contribution to be paid by Turkey to participate in the programmes and agencies in the following year.

This project fiche for the **2011 Financing Agreement part 2** shows EU support for Turkey's participation, *inter alia*, in the programmes and agencies listed in the table below for the year **2012**.

3. Detailed Budget

** All figures belong to Turkey's participation fees for the year 2012. All are in Euros.*

PROGRAM/AGENCY	NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION	EU SUPPORT	TOTAL COST
7thFramework Programme (*)	60465000	10.000.000	70 465 000
<u>Total</u>			70 465 000

(*) The remaining funds available under 2011 Programme will be used to support Turkey's contribution for the 7th Framework Programme.

The contribution from the national budget covers the difference between the total financial contribution of Turkey to the programme as indicated in the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the terms and conditions for participation in the Union Programme concerned, and the EU financial support.

4. Implementation Arrangements

4.1. The National Fund is responsible for the allowable Pre-accession financial assistance share of the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in Union programmes and agencies

4.2 Upon signature of the Financing Agreement, the National Fund will request from the Commission the transfer of the full amount of Pre-accession financial assistance indicated in section 3 above. These funds must be used to pay the EU share of the financial contribution to be paid by Turkey to participate in Union programmes and agencies.

Turkey shall pay its total financial contribution indicated in section 3 above in the column "total cost" as stipulated in the relevant Memorandum of Understanding signed between Turkey and the European Commission.

4.3 The various Commission services responsible for the different programmes or agencies will send to the Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the EU a request for the total financial contribution for the participation in a given programme or agency ("call for funds"). The National Fund should check the amount to be financed from Pre-accession financial assistance funds and then transfer the amount as per the call for funds to the Commission service responsible. When making the payment for each programme, the National Fund should quote the reference number indicated in the call for funds for the programme concerned, and send simultaneously a copy of the payment order to the relevant Commission service.

5. (Will be updated as new MoUs are signed over time)

PROGRAM / AGENCY	DATE OF SIGNATURE (MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING)
7 th Framework Programme	01.06.2007

Observations/Remarks

a. 7th Framework Programme

It has been agreed with DG Enlargement that the remaining funds from the overall programming can be used towards Turkey's participation fee for this program.

Following the negotiations of the Mid-Term Review process based on the Memorandum of Understanding of the Programme, it has been decided to fix the discount rate of Turkey's annual participation fees on 65% for the years, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The rebate in 2012 has been reflected in the 2012 contribution figures. Thus, the total amount of contribution in 2012 is €70.465.000.

The rebate of €8.998.398 from €71.987.186 to €62.988.788 for 2011 has not been reflected either in the 2010 or 2011 project fiches, though the actual amount paid in 2011 has been realised as discounted. This change is to be mentioned in the request for funds of upcoming monitoring reports.

b. Safer Internet Programme

Turkey's participation to Safer Internet Programme is under way. It is foreseen that Turkey will participate the Programme for years 2012 and 2013, but at the time of writing this Project Fiche; the MoU was yet to be finalized and then ratified.

Conclusion:

Regarding Turkey's participation in Union Programs and Agencies in 2012, the table in the Fiche is an indicative estimate showing the related participation fees and their co-financing from EU funds.