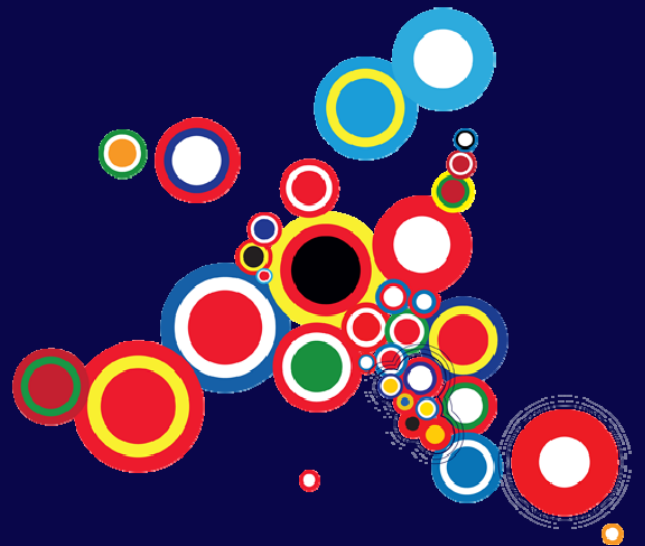




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

TURKEY

Support to participation in
Union Programmes
and Agencies



Turkey's participation in different Union Programmes and Agencies allows for increased exchange of citizens and institutions in various thematic fields. Therefore, it contributes to strengthening cooperation and dialogue as part of the accession process, supporting mobility in a similar way as among EU Member States.

Turkey participates in: Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, COSME, Customs, Fiscalis, Employment and Social Innovation, Civil Protection Mechanism and two agencies being European Environment Agency and European Monitoring Centre For Drug and Drug Addiction. The EU and Turkey may agree on Turkey participating in additional programmes.

The objective of the Action is to ensure Turkey's participation in Union Programmes and agencies by co-financing the costs of the participation fees / entry-tickets.

Action Identification	
Action Programme Title	Annual Action Programme for Turkey (2016)
Action Title	Support to participation in Union programmes and agencies
Action ID	IPA/2016/ 039-354/2/Turkey /Union Programmes
Sector Information	
IPA II Sector	1. Democracy and Governance
DAC Sector	43010 (multisector aid)
Budget	
Total cost	209 333 821.53 €
EU contribution	86 600 000 €
Management and Implementation	
Method of implementation	Indirect management
National authority or other entrusted entity	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
Implementation responsibilities	Ministry for EU Affairs Directorate for Social, Regional and Innovative Policies Ms Aydan YILMAZ National Fund
Location	
Zone benefiting from the action	Turkey
Specific implementation area(s)	Turkey
Timeline	
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	At the latest by 31 December 2017
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management	At the latest by 31 December 2017
Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 189(2) of the Financial Regulation
Final date for operational implementation	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement
Final date for implementing the	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement

Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de- committed and closed)			
Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)			
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

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.

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 has been materialised through separate Memoranda of Understanding until 2014. From 2014 and onwards, Turkey and the European Commission have signed new international agreements on the participation of Turkey in the next generation of Union programmes.

Over the 2007-2013 period Turkey has participated in Fiscalis, Customs, Progress, Lifelong Learning, Youth in Action, Competitiveness and Innovation framework Programme - the ICT Policy Support Programme (CIP ICT PSP), Competitiveness and Innovation framework Programme - Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (CIP EIP), Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) and Culture Programme. Turkey is a member of European Environment Agency since 2003.

Turkey is aiming at increasing the number of its participation in the programmes and agencies. Overall coordination of Turkey's participation in Union Programmes and Agencies is carried out by the Ministry for EU Affairs (MEU). MEU is responsible of the decision on the participation in programmes or on the termination of the participation, monitoring and evaluating the performance of Turkey in the actions of the Programmes and Agencies.

This Action outlines EU support for Turkey's participation, inter alia, in the Programmes and Agencies listed in the table below.

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

IPA II assistance for Union Programmes facilitates Turkey's participation in the different programmes and agencies for which international agreements have been signed between European Commission Services and relevant Turkish institutions. As a country with a large population, the participation fees for Turkey are substantial amounts (e.g. for Erasmus+ only, Turkey agreed to pay to DG EAC in total EUR 870 million in the period 2014-2020). Hence, as for other candidate countries, IPA II funds can be used to contributing in part to covering these costs.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

Union programmes and agencies form part of the move towards ever closer relations between the partners within the EU and those in Turkey; they also help familiarise them with policies and working methods while facilitating exchanges of experience and best practices.

Participation in Union programmes and agencies is an important element covered under Democracy and Governance of the indicative IPA II Strategy Paper 2014-2020; an area where Turkey has been active and has developed capacities. Turkey's participation in Union Programmes which allows for exchange between Turkish and EU citizens is an important complementary measure in this regard. Some of the Union Programmes can also contribute to civil society dialogue. As is stated in the Strategy Paper, an active civil society mirrors an effective pluralism which implies the respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, the rule of law and the possibility for social and political change. Civil society activities can stimulate and expand the space for dialogue and cooperation.

Continuing participation in Union programmes and agencies is important for both Turkey and the EU.

Regarding Competitiveness and Innovation, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), partner in the Union Programme Horizon 2020, is moving towards more collaboration with economic operators. The Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology (MoSIT) has also started supporting clusters through calls for proposals. There are other well-institutionalised partners in the system like KOSGEB, the SME Development Agency and the Turkish Patent Institute with wide outreach activities to the private sector. KOSGEB will be the coordinating institutions for Turkey's participating in COSME. As one of the core themes in the Competitiveness and Innovation sector will be capacity-building and support programmes, including for increased participation in Union Programmes, there is an important link to Turkey's participation in Horizon 2020, COSME and the Employment and Social Innovation programme.

Concerning the accession negotiations under the science and research chapter, Turkey has created the necessary implementation capacity to effectively participate in the Horizon 2020, and in order to ensure the successful implementation of the *acquis* in this field, Turkey could envisage to further its participation.

In the context of accession negotiations under the education and culture chapter, participation in Union Programmes is promoted. The implementation capacity relates to the existence of the necessary conditions for effective participation in Erasmus+. The applications for Erasmus+ continue to grow considerably.

Turkey and EU cooperate under the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) in assessing the many facets of the drug situation in Europe to improve relevant tools. Having joined the agency, candidate country Turkey cooperates in similar ways to Member States. Turkey's Drug Report 2014, prepared by Turkish National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (TUBİM) was submitted to EMCDDA in January 2015.

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism, fostering cooperation among national civil protection authorities across Europe, enables coordinated assistance from the participating states including Turkey to victims of natural and man-made disasters in Europe and elsewhere.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

With regard to the participation of Turkey to Union programmes **in 2014** (*rounded figures*):

Under the Erasmus+ Programme, Turkish National Agency received EUR 90 250 000, well-below the actual cost of participation. Turkish National Authority has already started its initiatives to increase this amount.

Turkish partners received EUR 27 622 000 Euros in Horizon 2020 Programme, equalling 53% of the participation fee. TÜBİTAK started to implement a programme with incentives to increase Turkish participation in the programme.

Turkish partners were not able to benefit from the COSME Programme as a result of the delay in the ratification of the participation agreement. KOSGEB, the national coordinator of the programme, started to establish consortia under European Enterprise Network, which is expected to increase Turkey's participation in the Programme.

Participation in Fiscalis and Customs Programmes are going well and line ministries are expected to take part in more actions in the upcoming years.

Enhanced cooperation between the Ministry of Environment and Urbanism and European Commission has also started very recently to increase Turkey's participation in the activities of European Environment Agency.

2. DESCRIPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

INTERVENTION LOGIC

Objective:

- To ensure participation of Turkey in Union programmes and agencies by co-financing the costs of the entry-tickets/participation fees to be paid in areas such as research and innovation, SMEs, social policy, customs and fiscal policy, education and youth etc.

Result:

- Enhanced participation of Turkey in Union programmes and agencies, including increased exchanges with EU Member States;
- Strengthened capacity, ownership and responsibility of Turkey (including in financial terms) for participation in Union programmes and agencies.

Indicators:

- Number of programmes and agencies for which an International Agreement has been concluded: 9 (2016 baseline), 9 as of 2017 and 10 as of 2020.¹
- Turkey's participation rates in the different Union programmes:

Erasmus+: Number of participants in the mobility programmes: baseline (2015) 60,000 people yearly – final target (2020) 450.000 in total.

Horizon 2020: % of return rate of entry ticket: baseline (2015) 58% of yearly budget – final target (2020): 65% of total budget.

Customs 2020: Number of participants in meetings: baseline (2015) 70 – final target (2020): 450 in total.

Fiscalis 2020: Number of participants in meetings: baseline (2015) 70 – final target (2020): 450 in total.

COSME: Financial instruments, Loan Guarantee Facility and Equity Facility for Growth will be used effectively. Figures cannot be estimated as there are no financial intermediaries contracted by EIF as of end of 2015.

EaSI: Number of projects retained for funding: baseline (2015) 1 – final target (2020) 5 in total.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

IPA funds of year 2016 co-finance entry tickets / participation fees for year 2017.

The participation of Turkey in Union programmes, including payment by the country of the entry ticket/participation fees, shall follow the specific terms and conditions set out for each programme in the relevant International Agreement. Co-financing rates from previous participation shall be taken into account, and in line with the principle of increasing Turkey's ownership and responsibility IPA funding rates shall decrease over the years in real or relative terms.

Turkey must not only provide the co-financing but also the funds necessary for the payment of the total entry ticket, prior to receiving the partial reimbursement from IPA II. The reimbursement will be paid as a grant to Turkey

¹ Please see the nine programmes and agencies listed in the table under budget breakdown. In 2016 Turkey also still participated in Creative Europe, but then decided to withdraw from this programme. Target for 2020 would be to join an additional programme or agency.

The NIPAC will regularly monitor the participation rates and reports on them as well as on co-financing trends in the context of IPA monitoring committees.

3. BUDGET BREAKDOWN

	Total expenditure	IPA II contribution		IPA II beneficiary contribution	
	EUR	EUR	%	EUR	%
Participation in 2017					
Entry ticket for Erasmus+	135.000.000,00	63.000.000,00	46,67	72.000.000,00	53,33
Entry ticket for Horizon 2020*	60.311.208,53	17.000.000,00	28,19	43.311.208,53	71,81
Entry ticket for COSME	9.849.613,00	4.536.500,00	46,06	5.313.113,00	53,94
Entry ticket for Customs 2020	260.000,00	110.000,00	42,31	150.000,00	57,69
Entry ticket for Fiscalis 2020	115.000,00	55.000,00	47,83	60.000,00	52,17
Entry ticket for EaSI	200.000,00	100.000,00	50,00	100.000,00	50,00
Entry ticket for Civil Protection Mechanism**	200.000,00	100.000,00	50,00	100.000,00	50,00
Entry ticket for EMCDDA	271.000	135.000,00	49,82	136.000	50,18
Entry ticket for EEA	3.127.000,00	1.563.500,00	50,00	1.563.500,00	50,00
TOTAL for ACTION***	209.333.821,53	86.600.000,00	41,37	122.733.821,53	58,63

*The amount to be paid for Horizon 2020 may change in 2016 depending on the final budget of the Programme in 2016. If the Total Expenditure exceeds this figure IPA II Contribution will remain fixed resulting an increase in the IPA II beneficiary contribution. If the Total Expenditure is realised less than this figure, part of the IPA II Contribution which will then be available could also be added to the EU support for the remaining Union programmes, or for any other Union programme as well as any new programmes Turkey may decide to participate in.

**IPA contribution may be incurred subject to the ratification of the agreement as reimbursement; normally costs incur for the IPA contribution once the debit note by the respective EC DG is due.

*** In case of withdrawal from any Programme, the figure allocated to the relevant Programme shall be reallocated to other programmes.

ANNEX

Overview of Turkey's public institutions that have signed International Agreements with the European Commission and dates of entry into force or latest amendments to the International Agreements

The Agreement for the participation in Erasmus+ was signed on 19 May 2014. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 17 June 2014.

The Agreement for the participation in Horizon 2020 was signed on 4 June 2014. The Council of Ministers' Decree will be published in the Official Gazette 12 July 2014.

The Agreement for the participation in Custom 2020 was signed on 16 July 2014. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 30 September 2014.

The Agreement for the participation in Fiscalis 2020 was signed on 16 July 2014. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 2 October 2014.

The Agreement for participation in COSME has been signed on 16 October 2014. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 18 December 2014.

The Agreement for participation for participation in EaSI has been signed on 17 February 2015. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 21 May 2015.

The Agreement for participation in Civil Protection Mechanism has been signed on 6 May 2015. The Council of Ministers' Decree was published in the Official Gazette on 22 March 2016.

The Agreement for participation in European Monitoring Centre for Drug and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) was signed on 30 October 2007. The related Act was published in Official Gazette on 30 June 2014.