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European Commission
DG Research

Project Officer

General context:

- First SSH - FP7 Call
- 531 proposals received, 44 ineligible
- 487 eligible proposals were evaluated by 169 independent experts
- 269 proposals (55,2%) passed all thresholds
- 65 are considered for funding and 24 have been placed on the reserve list
- Success rate 13%

Activity 8.3 Major trends in society and their implications

Topic 8.3.3.: Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies:

50 projects received

45 evaluated

29 below threshold

16 above threshold

4 funded:

GEMIC, GEITONES, REMC, Media & Citizenship

2009 Work Programme

- to be adopted in June 2008
- Calls open in July 2008
- Projects will start in Spring 2009
- Budget around 80 million Euro

GEITONES: Generating Interethnic Tolerance and Neighbourhoods Integration in European Urban

Research aims to generate knowledge about cultural interactions and its development between individuals and groups of different ethnic background in their daily communication in urban areas.

Partners: University of Lisbon (CO), University of Amsterdam, Austrian Academy of Science, University of Deusto, University of Macedonia, University of Warsaw

Media & Citizenship: Transnational Television Cultures - Reshaping Political Identity in the European Union

Studies the ways transnational media, in particular Arabic language television, reshape the political landscapes of citizenship in the European Union

Partners: Universiteit Utrecht (CO) **Prof. Cristina Slade**, University of Leeds, Universität Bielefeld, Örebro University, Université de Sorbonne

REMC: Religious Education in a multicultural society: School and Home in comparative context

Explores the transmission of religious beliefs and values through the education system and the family across different EU country contexts.

Primary research will be carried out in primary schools in Belgium (Flanders), Germany, Ireland, Malta, and Scotland, countries with very different religious compositions and educational systems.

Partners: Economic and Social Research Institute (Ireland) (CO) [Dr. Emer Smith](#), University of Edinburgh, University College Dublin, European University Institute, Catholic University of Leuven, Dortmund University, University of Malta

Policy Context- 1

Instruments for EU cultural policy:

- **Culture Programme 2007-2013** (intercultural dialogue and mobility in cultural sector)
- **Citizens for Europe 2007-2013** (promotes active European citizenship)
- **EC Communication advocating a European Agenda for Culture in a Globalizing World** (May 2007):
promote cultural diversity & intercultural dialogue in Europe; promote culture as a catalyst for creativity and innovation in the context of the Lisbon Strategy, ensure that culture becomes a key component in the EU's external relations.

Policy Context- 2

- November 2007 Culture Ministers of the EU MS endorsed the **European Agenda for Culture** which launches the start of a new policy strategy for culture with the Open Method of coordination
- **2008 - Year of Intercultural Dialogue**
- **2009 - European Year of Creativity and Innovation**

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Subcontracting

- Limited part of the project: **core** parts of the project **cannot** be subcontracted
- Tasks and estimation of costs duly described and justified **in Annex I**
- Principle of best value for money
- Charge of price (profit for the subcontractor)
- Subcontracting does not occur between beneficiaries
- External support services may be subcontracted for minor tasks: not in Annex I

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Amendments

- Coordinator requests amendments on behalf of the consortium
- Coordinator can accept an amendment proposed by the Commission
- For addition/withdrawal of partner: tacit approval after 45 days

- **Article 5.2 of GA – Financial content of Annex I to GA**

As the breakdown table included in Annex I (Description of Work) to the GA is an estimate, the transfer of budget between activities and beneficiaries is allowed **without the need for an amendment of the GA.** However, a condition for this is that the work be carried out as foreseen in Annex I to GA. The coordinator should verify this on a case by-case basis, but in practical terms, coordinators (and beneficiaries via the coordinator) are encouraged, where a transfer with a potential impact on the "Description of Work" arises (most cases), **to check this** with the **Project Officer** in the Commission. This e-mail (or other written) communication would avoid disagreement on the interpretation of this condition later.

An **amendment to the GA will be necessary** in all cases if the budget transfer arises from a significant change in Annex I. Significant change refers to a change that affects the technical work as foreseen in Annex I to GA, including the subcontracting of a task that was initially meant to be carried out by a beneficiary. In case of doubt, it is recommended to consult The responsible project officer within the Commission.

Furthermore, if a transfer is made, the reimbursement rates of the new activities and beneficiaries concerned as described in Article II.16 of GA will apply, as well as any other limits set in the GA (i.e. transfer between beneficiaries or activities with different funding rates).

FP7- New Interim Reports & payments

- **Submission of periodic reports every 18 months** within **60 days** after the end of each reporting period including:
 1. Overview of the progress of work
 2. Report on the use of the resources
 3. Form C for each beneficiary (financial statement)
 4. Summary Financial Report consolidating claimed EC contribution of all beneficiaries
 5. Certification of costs if needed (cumulative EC contribution \geq 375,000€)
- *Community financial contribution* corresponding to the amount **accepted** for each reporting period
- Prefinancing+Interim payments \leq 90% of max. EC contribution
- **EC has 105** days after reception of reports to evaluate and execute the payment: EC may approve, suspend the time limit, reject (possible termination of the project) or suspend the payment

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Final payment

- Final reports to be submitted by coordinator **60** days after end of project:
 1. Publishable summary report, conclusions and socioeconomic impact
 2. Report on wider societal implications and a plan on use and dissemination of foreground
 3. Forms C for each participant + Summary Financial Report
 4. Report on the distribution of the EC contribution 30 days after receipt of final payment
- Final amount recovers 10%retention+5% to GF (if possible)
- Final total Community contribution \leq Total eligible costs + Receipts

G.E.M.I.C

- Ensure and maintain strong commitment of **all partner institutions**
- Ensure that the **senior researchers**, promised in the proposal, will be actively involved in the project alongside the less experienced researchers or research students

G.E.M.I.C

- **Dissemination and policy relevance** are very important for the EC
- Dissemination should go **well beyond** the research community to policy-making audiences and to the wider public
- Think seriously about it and try to integrate these aspects **early in the project**

G.E.M.I.C

- **Read the contract, the Annex I and its General Conditions from time to time. To cross-check where you are and where you are expected to go...**
- **Make yourself familiar with the reporting requirements at an early stage and follow them don't invent your own reporting standards!**

G.E.M.I.C

- Respect the deadlines from the beginning
- Inform your SO about any, delay significant change or problem **early**. We can normally find a pragmatic and easy solution...!

G.E.M.I.C

I wish you **luck, good results**, and –
not to forget – some **fun** in this
European exercise!