



Brussels, 15.3.2013
C(2013) 1409 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 15.3.2013

on the amendment of the 2013 work programme for the European Year of Citizens 2013

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Decision No 1093/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on the European Year of Citizens (2013)¹,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and Council of 25 October 2012 on the Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union² (hereinafter referred to as the "Financial Regulation"), and in particular, Article 54 (1) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 on the Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union³ (hereinafter referred to as " Rules of application"),

Having regard to Commission Decision C(2012)8607 of 29.11.2012 adopting the 2013 annual work programme for the European Year of Citizens 2013,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 84 of the Financial Regulation and Article 94(1) of the Rules of application, the commitment of expenditure from the budget of the European Union shall be preceded by a financing decision setting out the essential elements of the action involving expenditure and adopted by the Commission.
- (2) The 2013 work programme being a sufficiently detailed framework in the meaning of Article 94(2) and (3) of the Rules of application, the present decision constitutes a financing decision for the expenditure provided for in the work programme contracts.
- (3) In order to provide for some degree of flexibility while applying specific actions covered by this Decision, it is necessary to foresee a possibility for the authorising officer to introduce non substantial changes on specific actions. Such changes should not however have a disproportionate impact on the budget line concerned and they should not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the action.
- (4) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of application.
- (5) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(5) of the Rules of application.

1 OJ L 325, 23.11.2012, p.1

2 OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1

3 OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p.1.

- (6) Under Article 190(1) (c) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly, duly identified in the financing decision and for the reasons provided therein.
- (7) Following the definitive adoption of the European Parliament and Council Decision on the European Year of Citizens 2013 and the adoption of the European Union's general budget for the financial year 2013, providing a total amount of €2 millions for this European Year of Citizens 2013, an amendment to decision C(2012)8607 has now become necessary.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The annex to the annual work programme for the European Year of Citizens for 2013 C(2012)8607 is amended in order to add new points 2.2., 2.3. and 3, the content of which is specified in the Annex to the present Decision.

Article 2

The amendment of the 2013 annual work programme for the European Year of Citizens 2013, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted. It constitutes a financing decision in the meaning of the Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 3

The maximum contribution for the work programme is set at € 2 000 000 and shall be financed from the following line of the General Budget of the European Union for 2013:

Budget line 16.050702 : €2 000 000

These appropriations shall cover interest due for late payment.

Article 4

Cumulated changes to the allocations to the specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution set in Article 3 are not considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of application, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature and objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 3 may not exceed 20 %.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such changes in accordance with the principle of sound financial management and principle of proportionality.

Article 5

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly, in accordance with the conditions detailed in the annexed work programme.

Article 6

The Director General of DG Communication is responsible for ensuring the publication and implementation of the annual work programme for the budget line 16.050702 "European Year of Citizens 2013".

Done at Brussels, 15.3.2013

For the Commission
Viviane REDING
Vice-President

ANNEX

Commission Decision adopting the amendment to the 2013 annual work programme for the European Year of Citizens 2013

Budget line: 16.050702

Legal basis: Decision No 1093/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on the European Year of Citizens (2013)

The amendment, together with its budgetary implications, introduced by this decision are detailed in the present annex. For any other elements concerning the 2013 work programme for the European Year of Citizens 2013 it is necessary to refer to the Commission Decision C(2012) 8607 of 29 November 2012.

2.2. Additional information and communication activities

Cf. index 1.2. of the programming table of the budget line 16.050702

Design and implementation of information and communication activities that will complement the information and communication campaign, designed and launched in November 2012, to further promote interaction and dissemination around the key messages of the European Year of Citizens (2013).

The implementation will be done through a specific contract from an existing framework contract.

2.3. Evaluation

Cf. index 1.3. of the programming table of the budget line 16.050702

According to the Decision No 1093/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the initiatives provided for in this Decision, by 31 December 2014.

However, in this particular case and in view of the upcoming European elections, a report will be submitted before the 30 April 2014.

To this end, an evaluation will be launched by the European Commission to assess the impact of the European Year of Citizens 2013. The intention is to combine an ongoing evaluation starting during the activities in 2013 with an ex post evaluation.

An overall amount of EUR 150 000 will be used for this evaluation exercise. It is intended to reopen competition on an already existing multiple framework contract of the European Commission.

The implementation will be done through a specific contract from an existing framework contract.

3. GRANT TO BODIES WITH A DE JURE OR DE FACTO MONOPOLY (ART. 190.1(C) OF THE RULES OF APPLICATION)

Cf. index 1.4. of the programming table of the budget line 16.050702

Grant to support the European Year of Citizens Alliance

A grant agreement for an action will be signed with one representative body for civil society organisations (hereinafter referred to as the "Alliance"). Since 2007, the key EU-level civil society stakeholders have been working together to form an alliance specifically dedicated to implementing activities for the European Year. This Alliance currently comprises a total of 51 networks that represent around 3000 civil society organisations, networks and national coalitions in the Member States, which are active in promoting civic participation.

The Alliance is therefore a unique pan-European grouping of European and national networks of civil society associations and NGOs that brings together an unparalleled wealth of grassroots knowledge and experience. It provides broad representation across Europe and access to many thousands of citizens through the national and regional members of their networks. It benefits from the support of the European Economic and Social Committee and is aiming to mobilise and coordinate wide civil society engagement in the activities which will be scheduled during the European Year of Citizens 2013, to initiate a Europe-wide debate on issues relating to the exercise of European citizens' rights and to citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU.

The Alliance is therefore de facto in a monopoly position to carry out the tasks of coordinating European civil society organisations and networks as provided for in Article 190.1(c) of the Rules of application. No other body could rival the wide scope, breadth of geographical coverage and scale of representation of this Alliance.

The Alliance has set up a secretariat which will be invited to present a grant request (a) detailing the allocation of funds received from the EU; (b) specifying how they would plan and carry out activities specifically aimed at engaging citizens and civil society organisations; and (c) initiating a Europe-wide debate on issues relating to the exercise of European citizens' rights and to citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU.

These activities would complement the information and communication services to be undertaken by the company contracted to organise the campaign of the European Year of Citizens 2013.

The grant request will also need to include elements allowing the Commission to assess the financial, legal and technical capacity of the organisation designated by the Alliance members to act as its secretariat with regard to the tasks of the civil society co-ordination structure. In addition the Alliance secretariat will have to demonstrate the European dimension of the Alliance's planned activities and its value-added in relation to the objectives of the European Year.

The European Union's financial support will be awarded through an action grant. Actions proposed will be directly managed and funded by the Alliance secretariat.

PROGRAMMING TABLE FOR 2013

Budget line 16.05.07.02

Title European Year of Citizens 2013

EUR 27
2,000,000

EFTA/EEA

C5*

TOTAL**
2,000,000

Index	Actions and sub-actions	Budget	Mode of implementation	Number of grants / contracts	Average value of grants / contracts	Maximum rate of cofinancing	Publication of the calls	Committee opinion on the selection lists	Grant Agreement
1.1	Information and communication campaign	1,000,000	PP	1	1,000,000	NA	Nov-12	NA	NA
1.2.	Additional information and communication activities	550,000	PP	1	550,000	N/A	Mar-13	NA	NA
1.3.	Evaluation	150,000	PP	1	150,000	N/A	Mar-13	N/A	NA
1.4.	Coordination of civil society activities to support EY 2013	300,000	MON	1	300,000	90%	N/A	N/A	AGR
	Total	2,000,000							

* Estimate based on the recoveries already completed (date)

**Pursuant to article 92 of the Financial Regulation, the appropriations may also finance the payment of default interest.

PP: Public Procurement

AGR: Grants covered by a written agreement

MON: Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly - Art 190.1(c) of the Rules of application