



Anna Lindh Foundation

Work Programme 2012- 2014



www.euromedalex.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Anna Lindh Foundation was created in 2005 for promoting intercultural dialogue, better knowledge and mutual respect, facilitating exchanges between the societies across the Mediterranean. The Foundation has its Headquarters in Alexandria, Egypt and works as a Network of Networks in the 43 countries involved in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The Foundation has established itself as a central institution for intercultural dialogue in the Region, bringing together NGOs and civil society organisations (*), opinion-makers and young people from both shores of the Mediterranean in common projects.

Building on the achievements of its first 6 years, the ALF is now launching a Work Programme for 2012 to 2014 which aims to reinforce its intercultural dialogue mission and actively respond to the new and emerging cultural and social challenges the region is facing. The Programme has been settled through a participatory process involving the Foundation's Networks and most of the ALF stakeholders. The Programme is analysed and endorsed by an intergovernmental Board of Governors, with its strategic development guided by an Advisory Council of leading Mediterranean personalities and experts.

Background and key achievements

During its initial 2 phases of operation (2005-2008, 2008-2011), the ALF developed and delivered a comprehensive regional programme for the promotion of intercultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Key achievements are set in the first Anna Lindh Review 2005-2011 (www.annalindhreview.org), including:

- **Establishing credibility and visibility with key stakeholders** within the 43 societies of the Euro-Med Partnership, through its Networks, and assuming a leadership role among international institutions working in the region in the field of intercultural dialogue
- **Developing a Network of National Networks** in each one of the Euro-Med countries, involving more than 3,800 NGOs and CSOs
- **Financing 416 intercultural projects with 7 Million Euros**, with an estimated 96,584 direct beneficiaries and 1,015 new North-South partnerships
- **Encouraging the participation of civil society** in intercultural dialogue, through the first Anna Lindh Forum, and the launching region-wide campaigns involving all the Networks
- **Pioneering the very first 'Report on Euro-Med Intercultural Trends'** (www.annalindhreport.org), launched through 50 debate events
- **Establishing a monitoring and evaluation system** for all ALF co-organised and granted activities, and putting in place a financial management policy according to international standards
- **Implementing a comprehensive communication policy**, with more than 2,300 references to ALF in the international press and 1,200,000 visits to the Website Portal (euromedalex.org)

(*) *The NGOs and CSOs involved in the ALF programmes and grants should be legally registered in their country.*

In addition, the ALF has carried out a number of activities in a context affected by events in the region and difficulties related to the Euro-Med political dialogue, including 'the Cartoon Crisis' and 'Israeli-Hezbollah War' in 2006, 'the Gaza War' and 'UfM deadlock' of 2008/2009, and, more recently, the 'Arab Revolutions' and the democratic reforms taking place in the southern shore of the Mediterranean. The ALF has also developed activities aimed at facing the consequences of the economic crisis on the relations between cultures and communities.

Strategic Priorities, Action Fields and Formats

The overarching aim of the Anna Lindh Work Programme 2012-2014 is to consolidate and reinforce the Foundation as the main institution for intercultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean space. The Programme should become a primary resource for CSOs facing the challenges of cultural diversity, economic and social crisis, and democratic transition on both shores of the Mediterranean. In this regard, key objectives for the ALF's next operational phase will focus on:

- **Improving mutual perceptions and promoting mutual understanding**, generating positive changes in intercultural relations and policies
- **Fostering the role of the Foundation in promoting intercultural dialogue** at the grass-root level
- **Reinforcing the Anna Lindh Networks of civil society** and building their capacities
- **Providing skills for dialogue, citizenship and participation**, in collaboration with governments and institutions

The strategic fields of action of the ALF will remain those spaces where mutual perceptions are shaped and a culture of dialogue can be developed at the grass-root level, that-is-to-say: (a) Cultural Creativity; (b) Education and Intercultural Learning; (c) Urban Spaces and Citizenship (d) Media and Public Opinion.

In order to respond and adapt to the emerging Euro-Mediterranean landscape, the ALF will develop its intercultural mission through four cross-cutting issues: Dialogue, Diversity, Democracy and Development. ("4D" Strategy). This approach conceives intercultural dialogue as an action among the civil society ultimately aimed at valuing diversity, promoting social participation in building open and pluralistic societies, and fostering human development and fundamental rights.

The Work Programme will be implemented through two main formats;

- Activities carried out by the Foundation
- Grants awarded through Calls for Proposals.

Activities carried out by the Foundation:

- **Multi-annual Initiatives on Intercultural Dialogue** developed in the ALF's priority fields and through its major projects, including the Report on Intercultural Trends, the Anna Lindh Forum and the Award programmes
- **Partnership Proposals** for joint initiatives selected according the strategic priorities and the intercultural dialogue agenda
- **Capacity-building Measures** aimed at promoting exchanges, trainings and information, as well as activities in partnership with the Anna Lindh Networks
- **Networks Development and Network Common Operations** aimed at providing logistical and operational support to the ALF Networks, and implementing the ALF programme in the field of intercultural dialogue

Grants awarded through Calls for Proposals

The Foundation launches regularly Call for Proposals addressed to its National Networks with the objective of supporting grass-root activities between Euro-Mediterranean civil society organisations in the field of intercultural dialogue.

The ALF Overall Programme

The key aspects of the ALF Overall Programme for 2012-14 are:

- **Multiannual Initiatives on intercultural dialogue.** Large-scale projects and co-organised activities in the fields of Cultural Creativity, Education and Intercultural Learning, Urban Spaces and Citizenship, and Media and Public Opinion
- **Believe in Dialogue, Act for Citizenship Programme.** Promoting a North-South Network Exchange on intercultural dialogue and encouraging citizenship practice, and regional cooperation among Southern Mediterranean Networks.

Among the major projects there will be:

- **The Young Arab Voices Programme.** Co-organised with the British Council, the programme aims at providing youth the required skills to build their capacity for debate and intercultural dialogue. It will be implemented progressively in most of the societies of the Southern shore of the Mediterranean. This programme is co-financed through the British Foreign Office's Arab Partnership Initiative
- **The Citizens for Dialogue Programme.** The programme aims at providing CSOs with tools and skills for intercultural dialogue, exchange, networking, partnership-making activities and participation. The Programme will have a Euro-Med scope and will be implemented progressively in the societies of the Southern shore of the Mediterranean, in partnership with all the ALF Networks and the concerned governments. Supported by a specific EU fund, this Programme responds to the ALF mandate and is integrated in the overall ALF Programme
- **The Anna Lindh Forum 2013.** The Forum aims to be one of the most significant Euro-Med civil society intercultural gatherings, as well as the most important ALF Network common activity;
- **The Report on Intercultural Trends and Social Changes.** The Report combines a Survey carried out by an Opinion Poll Company with a task of in-depth analysis of intercultural trends in the region, in partnership with academic partners, media practitioners and the ALF Networks;
- **The Network Strategic Development Scheme.** The NSDS promotes regional sustainable partnerships among CSOs, empowering the Networks and implementing the ALF programme in the 43 Euro-med countries;
- **Institutional Activities, Communication and ALF Awards.** Partnering in events and co-organising activities with key institutional partners, and managing the President's Activities, Advisory Council and Board of Governors
- **Calls for Proposals.** The ALF grants are aimed at involving civil society in intercultural dialogue activities through projects shared by ALF Network Members of the South and the North of the Mediterranean

Communication Policy and Visibility Dimension

The strategic priorities of the ALF's communication work for 2012-14 centre on: 'Reinforcing the centrality of communication at all levels of the institution'; and 'Reaching beyond the Euro-Mediterranean circle of friends and networks'.

In this regard, the key communication objectives for the work programme 2012-14, endorsed by the ALF Heads of Network, are: providing comprehensive policy guidelines on communication at all levels of the institution; establishing a permanent news and information service to Networks and partners; establishing the Anna Lindh Website Portal as the leading resource for the social of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and a source of debate on intercultural issues.

The communication policy will be implemented through: the Press Office and media related activities; the Website Portal (www.euromedalex.org) and the social media strategy; the development of Communication guidelines and promotional tools and the establishment of international media partnerships.

Organisational Profile and Capacity

The organisational structure of the Foundation will respond to the key challenges of the new operational phase, introducing new tools for the effective WP implementation.

The ALF Headquarters is managed by the Executive Director according to an organigramme which is structured on:

- the Executive Office, in charge of institutional affairs and the communication policy for the ALF and its Networks
- the Administration and Finance Unit, responsible for the administrative, human resources and budgetary dimension of the ALF activities
- the Programme and Operations Unit, responsible for developing and managing the ALF Programmes
- the Networks Coordination and Development Unit, responsible for developing and managing the Networks and the Network Support Development Scheme