

ALL About the Culture Programme

Note that **11** at the end of each heading refers to the relevant chapter in the official **Programme Guide**

1. Summary of Key Dates – Deadlines / Announcements / Start Dates **17**

Action	Deadline for Submission*	Publication selection results at latest	Starting date	Duration
Strand 1.1 Multi-annual Cooperation Projects	1 October of year n 12.00N CEST	31 March of year n+1	1 May of year n+1 and 30 April of year n+2	3 to 5 years
Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation Projects	1 October of year n 12.00N CEST	31 March of year n+1	1 May of year n+1 and 30 April of year n+2	Max. 2 years
Strand 1.2.2 Literary Translation Projects	3 Feb of year n 12.00N CEST	31 July of year n	1 September of year n and 31 August of year n+1	Max. 2 years
Strand 1.3.5 Cultural Cooperation Projects with Third Countries* <i>* the selected Third Countries will be announced every year on the EACEA culture website</i>	3 May of year n 12.00N CEST	31 August of year n	1 November of year n and 31 October of year n+1	Max. 2 years
Strand 1.3.6: Annual Grant Support to European cultural festivals	15 November of year n	31 March of year n+1	One edition of the festival, taking place between 1 May of year n+1 and 30 April of year n+2	Max. 1 year
Strand 1.3.6: Framework partnership (3 years) Support to European cultural festivals	15 November 2010	31 March 2011	Three editions of the festival, taking place between 1 May 2011 and 30 April 2013	Max. 3 years
Strand 2: Annual operating grant For organisations active at European level in the field of Culture: a) Ambassadors b) Advocacy Networks c) Structured Dialogue Platforms	15 Sept of year n 12.00N CEST	28 February of year n+1	The financial year n+1	<i>The financial year</i>
Strand 2: Framework partnership (3 years) For organisations active at European level in the field of culture a) Ambassadors b) Advocacy Networks c) Structured Dialogue Platforms	15 Sept 2010	28 February 2011	The financial year 2011	<i>Financial years 2011-2013</i>
Strand 3.2 Cooperation projects between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis	1 October of year n 12.00N CEST	28 February of year n+1	1 May of year n+1 and 30 April of year n+2	1 to 2 years

* deadlines may change slightly if this date falls on a weekend – check the UK CCP website: www.culturefund.eu

2. Background **11**

Culture is a relatively new sphere of action for the European Union (EU), at least from a legal standpoint: the legal basis for EU action in this field was only introduced in 1992 with the Maastricht Treaty. This action is aimed at encouraging and supporting cooperation within Europe in order to bring the European common cultural heritage to the fore.

The European Commission (hereafter "the Commission") encourages culture in two ways:

- through policies, chiefly cultural policy, but also by mainstreaming the cultural dimension in other areas of EU

interest such as, for example, in competition or industrial policy;

- through financial support, primarily via the Culture Programme (2007-2013) (hereafter "the Programme"), but also via other actions such as, for example, within the framework of regional policy.

These two aspects are closely linked as the Programme has been designed to serve policy development in the cultural field and ultimately to promote common cultural values aiming to enhance the cultural heritage shared by the peoples of Europe.

3. Eligible Countries **1.2.1.1**

Countries eligible under this Programme are:

- EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom);
- EEA (European Economic Area) countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway);
- Candidate countries for EU membership (Croatia, Turkey and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Montenegro, Serbia

In the Western Balkans Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina may become eligible in future, provided they conclude a memorandum of understanding laying down details of their respective participation in the Programme.

Countries that do not feature in the above list of countries taking part in the Programme are categorised as 'Third Countries'.

4. Objectives of the Programme **1.3.1**

The Programme has been established to enhance the cultural area shared by Europeans, which is based on a common cultural heritage, through the development of cooperation activities among cultural operators from eligible countries, with a view to encouraging the emergence of European citizenship.

The Programme is aimed at three specific objectives:

- promotion of the trans-national mobility of people working in the cultural sector;
- support for the trans-national circulation of cultural and artistic works and products;
- promotion of inter-cultural dialogue.

The Programme has a flexible, interdisciplinary approach and is focussed on the needs expressed by cultural operators during the public consultations leading up to its design.

The activities supported within the Programme belong to three main typologies, which correspond to the *strands* of the Programme. They are outlined in detail in separate **Info-Sheets (PROJ, FIN, ST2)**, which lists all criteria and application requirements.

A short description of each *strand* is provided below.

5. Strands of the Programme **1.3.2**

Strand 1: Support for cultural projects

Cultural organisations are given support for projects to work together across borders and to create and implement cultural and artistic activities.

The thrust of this strand is to help organisations, such as theatres, museums, professional associations, research centres, universities, cultural institutes and public authorities from different countries participating in the Programme to cooperate so that different sectors can work together and extend their cultural and artistic reach across borders.

This *strand* is divided into four categories, which are detailed below.

Strand 1.1: Multi-annual Cooperation Projects (lasting from three to five years)

The first category seeks to foster multi-annual, trans-national cultural links by encouraging a minimum of six cultural operators from at least six eligible countries to cooperate and work within and across sectors to develop joint cultural activities over a period of three to five years. Funds of between a minimum of €200,000 and a maximum of €500,000 per year are available, but EU support is limited to a maximum of 50% of the total eligible cost.

The funding is intended to help set up or extend the geographical reach of a project and make it sustainable beyond the funding period.

Strand 1.2.1: Cooperation Projects (lasting up to two years)

The second category concerns actions shared by at least three cultural operators, working within and across sectors, from at least three eligible countries over a maximum period of two years. Actions that explore means of long-term co-operation are especially targeted. Funds of between €50,000 and €200,000 are available, but EU support is limited to a maximum of 50% of the total eligible cost.

Strand 1.2.2: Literary Translation Projects (lasting up to two years)

The third category concerns support for translation projects. EU support for Literary Translation is aimed at enhancing knowledge of the literature and literary heritage of fellow Europeans by way of promoting the circulation of literary works between countries. Publishing houses can be awarded grants for translations and publication of works of fiction from one European language into another European language. Funds of between €2,000 and €60,000 are available, but EU support is limited to a maximum of 50% of the total eligible cost.

Strand 1.3.5: Cooperation Projects with Third Countries (lasting up to two years)

The fourth category seeks to support cultural cooperation projects aimed at cultural exchanges between the countries taking part in the Programme and *Third Countries*, which have concluded association or cooperation agreements with the EU, provided that the latter contain cultural clauses. Every year one or more *Third Country(ies)* is/are selected for that particular year. The country(ies) is/are indicated each year on the website of the Executive Agency at least 4 months before the deadline for submission indicated above.

The action must generate a concrete international cooperation dimension. Projects must involve at least three cultural operators, from at least three *eligible countries* and cultural cooperation with at least one organisation from the selected *Third Country* and involve cultural activities carried out in the selected *Third Country*. Funds of between €50,000 and maximum €200,000 are available, but EU support is limited to maximum 50% of the total eligible cost.

Strand 1.3.6: Support for European cultural festivals

The aim of this strand is to support festivals having a European dimension and contributing to the general objectives of the Programme (ie mobility of professionals, circulation of works and intercultural dialogue). The maximum amount of the grant is €100,000, representing maximum 60% of the eligible costs. The support can be granted for one edition of the festival or for three editions.

Strand 2: Support for Organisations Active at European Level in the Field of Culture

Cultural organisations working, or wanting to work, at the European level in the field of culture can receive support for their operating costs.

The grant awarded under this strand is designed to assist with operating costs incurred by these beneficiary organisations in implementing their work programmes. This profoundly differs from any other grants, which may be awarded under the other strands of the Programme. A more detailed description of support to operating costs and project grants is provided in **Info-Sheet ST2**.

Three categories of organisations are eligible under this *strand* (a more detailed description of each category is provided in **Info-Sheet ST2**):

- a) Ambassadors
- b) Advocacy networks
- c) Structured dialogue platforms

The maximum amount of grants that are available varies from €100,000 and €600,000, depending on the category applied for, but EU support is limited to a maximum of 80% of the total *eligible costs* or of the costs estimated in the proposed work programme.

Strand 3: Support for Analyses and for the Collection and Dissemination of Information and for Maximising the Impact of Projects in the Field of Cultural Cooperation

Support is available for analysis and dissemination activities that help collect and research results in response to the need for strong quantitative evidence in the cultural sector and evaluate them in the light of the objectives of the Programme. There is also a need to provide information about the Culture Programme to artists and cultural organisations more locally. In this respect Cultural Contact Points are funded in all *eligible countries* (see **8.2** below)

The Programme supports the carrying out of studies and analyses in the field of European cultural cooperation and European cultural policy development. The aim of this support is to increase the volume and quality of information and data to develop comparative data and analysis on cultural cooperation at European level, particularly with regard to the mobility of creators and cultural players, the circulation of works of art and artistic and cultural products and intercultural dialogue.

The Programme also supports the collection and dissemination of information and activities aimed at maximising the impact of projects. It promotes the exchange of experience and good practice and the dissemination of information concerning the Programme as well as trans-European cultural cooperation in the broad sense.

Strand 3.2: Co-operation projects between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis

This category seeks to support cooperation projects between private or public organisations (such as cultural departments of national, regional or local authorities, cultural observatories or foundations, university departments specialised in cultural affairs, professional organisations and networks) which have direct and practical experience in the analysis, evaluation, or impact assessment of cultural policies at local, regional, national and/or European levels, related to one or more of the 3 objectives of the European Agenda for Culture:

- Promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue;
- Promotion of culture as a catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs;
- Promotion of culture as a vital element in the Union's international relations, implementing the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Actions must involve at least three organisations legally established in at least three countries taking part in the Programme. The maximum amount of the grant is 120.000€ a year, representing maximum 60% of the eligible costs. Support can be given to the following activities:

- secretariat and coordination of the grouping
- exchange, analysis, comparison and consolidation of existing quantitative and qualitative data and evaluation methods;
- production of proposals and recommendations for new evaluation methods or quantitative and qualitative data. The launching of new specific studies or data collections is not covered.
- reporting and dissemination of findings at the level of the European Union.

6. Links with Years Devoted to Specific Themes at European Level **L4**

The Programme also aims to build links with the activities related to years that are devoted to a specific theme at European level.

- **2010: Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**
- **2011: Year of Volunteering**
- **2012: Year for Active Ageing & Intergenerational Solidarity**

7. Who Manages the Programme **L5**

7.1 The European Commission (EC)

The European Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) is responsible for the Programme and directly manages some of its activities, while most of them are implemented by delegation through the Education, Audiovisual and Culture

Executive Agency, which operates under its supervision and is also based in Brussels (Belgium).

The following activities, all falling under strand 1.3 of the Programme except the last one, are managed directly by the Commission and are not covered by these **Info-Sheets** (specific guidelines for these activities are available on the Commission's website as indicated next to each activity):

- Support for the European Capitals of Culture
- Awarding of European prizes in the cultural field
- Support for cooperation with international organisations
- Special actions
- Support for the collection and dissemination of information and for maximising the impact of projects in the field of cultural cooperation (*strand* 3.3).

7.2 The Executive Agency (EACEA)

All other activities within the Programme, as listed here below, are implemented by the Executive Agency:

- Multi-annual Cooperation projects (*strand* 1.1 – see **Info-Sheet PROJ** for more details)
- Cooperation projects (*strand* 1.2.1 – see **Info-Sheet PROJ** for more details)
- Literary Translation projects (*strand* 1.2.2 – see **Info-Sheet L&F** for more details)
- Cultural Cooperation projects with *Third Countries* (*strand* 1.3.5 – see **Info-Sheet PROJ** for more details)
- Support for European cultural festivals (*strand* 1.3.6 – see **Info-Sheet L&F** for more details)
- Support for Organisations Active at European level in the Field of Culture (*strand* 2) (see **Info-Sheet ST2** for more details)
- Support for Cultural Contact Points (*strand* 3.1)
- Support for Analyses in the Field of Cultural Cooperation (*strand* 3)
- Co-operation projects between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis (*strand* 3.2)

7.3 Cultural Contact Points (CCPs)

As implementation of the Programme is centralised, it is important to provide at the national level information and guidance to those interested in applying under this Programme.

Cultural Contact Points have been established in all *eligible countries* to provide those organisations wishing to apply with the necessary guidance on the Programme's functioning and concrete assistance in preparing their applications.

They are responsible for promoting the Programme and facilitating access to it, in order to ensure targeted, effective grass-roots dissemination of practical information on its implementation, its activities and funding possibilities.

Co-financed by both the Culture Programme and each individual country, those Contact Points also help project promoters in their dissemination activities.

Visiting Arts is the **UK Cultural Contact Point**:

- www.culturefund.eu

A list of Contact Points can be found at either:

- http://ec.europa.eu/culture/annexes-culture/doc1232_en.htm
- <http://ccp.culture.info>

8. Budget **L6**

The Programme has a total budget of €400 million for the 2007-2013 period.

Total yearly appropriations, including for those actions that do not form part of this guide, may vary from around €43 million to about €58 million, depending on the year.

On a proposal by the Commission the annual budget breakdown per *strand* (in line with the approximations indicated hereafter) is approved by the *Programme Committee*. Over the whole duration

of the Programme, approximately 77% of the total budget is intended to be devoted to *strand 1*, 10% to *strand 2* and around 5% to *strand 3*. The remaining appropriations are allocated to cover the Programme's general, administrative and technical expenses.

Calendar 2008 - 2013

The deadlines for submission of applications cover the entire period of the Programme and stated at the front of this Info-Sheet.

If the deadline for submission falls on a weekend or public holiday in the applicant's country no extension will be granted and applicants must take this into account when planning their submission.

During the period between the deadline for submission of application and the publication of selection results the following procedures take place:

- The assessment and selection of the applications
- For strand 1.1. only, consultation within the *Programme Committee* and the European Parliament of representatives from the *eligible countries* in regarding the selection results, a process which takes a minimum of six weeks.

Only after those procedures can applicants be informed about the outcome of the selection (see **Info-Sheet ASG**).

9. Visibility and Publicity III.11.1

All activities funded have to contribute to promoting the Programme. Enhancing visibility means that actions and products funded within the Programme must clearly indicate that they have received support from the European Union. This support should also be made known through the media.

Beneficiaries and co-organisers should make use of all opportunities to ensure appropriate media coverage (local, regional, national, international) for their actions, before and during their implementation.

The objective is to ensure that all participants are aware of the fact that they are involved in the Culture Programme, but also to show the wider public that the EU is supporting a high-quality project of direct interest to them.

Visibility is mainly to be ensured while the action takes place. It should therefore be integrated in the planning of the action. The coordinator and co-organisers must clearly acknowledge the EU grant in all publications or in conjunction with actions for which the grant is used.

Furthermore, they are required to give prominence to the name and logo of the EU, the European Commission, and the Culture Programme on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised under the co-financed action(s).

If this requirement is not fully complied with, the *beneficiary's* grant may be reduced proportionally.

The names and logos can be downloaded on the following website:

- http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about/logos_en.htm

The *beneficiaries* authorise the Executive Agency and the Commission to publish information contained in their application form for publicity of the Programme.

10. Exploitation and Dissemination of Results III.11.2

Exploitation and dissemination of the results of an action or actions can be defined as the process undertaken with a view to optimising their value, strengthening their impact and making the largest possible number of persons benefit from them.

A web-based tool called EVE has been devised for the purpose of disseminating information on projects funded in the framework of education and culture programmes and publicising the results of such projects. To this end, space is made available on the EVE platform for the presentation of each project and its results. The platform will be available from March 2009 on the following website: www.ec.europa.eu/eve.

The organisers of each project supported by this Programme should make the necessary efforts to ensure its exploitation. All operators involved should carry out activities aimed at making the results of their action(s) more visible, better known and sustainable.

To this end, they should produce material facilitating the dissemination and exploitation of results, like flyers, publications, websites, DVDs, etc. With a view to ensuring the promotion of the Culture Programme and enhancing the visibility of assisted projects, *beneficiaries* shall undertake to provide the European Commission or the Executive Agency on request with at least three high-resolution (300 dpi) photographs illustrating their project

Because of these activities, the results of an action will continue to be useful and have a positive effect on the largest possible number of people once the action has come to an end.

By planning exploitation as part of their action(s), the *beneficiary* and, where applicable, the *co-organisers* will increase the quality of their work and actively contribute to the overall impact of the Programme.

Both the visibility and exploitation aspects shall be taken into account in the qualitative assessment of applications.

In particular, multi-annual cooperation projects shall provide in their budget for a yearly trip to Brussels or to any other venue indicated by the Commission or the Executive Agency, to showcase their projects. These travel costs have to be incorporated in their budget at the application stage.

11. Information on Previous Projects III.12

Information on organisations and activities that are already financed under the Culture Programmes is available on the following websites:

For Culture Programme (2007-2013):
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/index_en.php

For Culture Programme 2000:
http://ec.europa.eu/culture/our-programmes-and-actions/doc411_en.htm

CUPID Database of EU Funded Cultural Projects
<http://cupid.culture.info>

European Commission Websites

Directorate-General for Education and Culture
http://ec.europa.eu/culture/index_en.htm

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/index_en.htm

Please note that all the terms and keywords typed in italics in the text are further clarified in the Glossary (Info-Sheet ASG)

LEAFLET PRODUCED BY

Visiting Arts

EU CULTURAL CONTACT POINT (CCP) IN THE UK

www.culturefund.eu

includes links to official EC / EACEA webpages
(to download full *Programme Guide* and *Application Forms*)

Register for the free **Alert** e-newsletter at the above website

Contact the UK CCP at Visiting Arts:

By email to info@culturefund.eu

By phone to 020 7960 9631

If outside the UK, by phone to +44 20 7960 9631

Culture.Info websites that may be of interest:

- euronews.culture.info
- eu.culture.info
- europe.culture.info
- networks.culture.info
- partners.culture.info